

Kentucky Ancestors

genealogical quarterly of the KentuckyHistoricalSociety

**“We are all
Slaughtered Men”:
The Battle of
Blue Licks**

**Major Robert Asa
Hancock and
His Family**

**The Shaker
Experience of
Mattie (Sanford)
Bryant Bland**

**William Miller
of Henry County**



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on the cover: The Battle of the Blue Licks, fought on August 19, 1782, in present-day Robertson County, is considered the last battle of the Revolutionary War. This depiction is taken from a 1930s Works Progress Administration mural by George Gray that once hung in the lobby of the former Capital Hotel in Frankfort.

“We are all Slaughtered Men”: The Battle of Blue Licks

By John M. Trowbridge

The Battle of Blue Licks, fought on August 19, 1782, in present-day Robertson County, has long been considered the last battle of the Revolutionary War. It was actually fought ten months after Lord Cornwallis' surrender on a hill next to the Licking River, when a force of about 50 British rangers and 300 Indians ambushed and routed 182 Kentucky militiamen. It was the worst defeat for the Kentuckians during the war.

Caldwell's Expedition

Although a British army under Lord Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown in October 1781, the Revolutionary War on the western frontier continued. Aided by the British in Detroit, Indians north of the Ohio River redoubled their efforts to drive American settlers out of western Virginia (what is now Kentucky and West Virginia).

In July 1782, a large meeting was held at the Shawnee villages near the headwaters of the Mad River in the Ohio Country, with Shawnees, Delawares, Mingos, Wyandots, Miamis, Ottawas, Ojibwas, and Potawatomis in attendance. A force of 150 British rangers under Captain William Caldwell¹

(of Butler's Rangers²) and 1,100 Indians supervised by Alexander McKee, Simon Girty³, and Matthew Elliott was sent against Wheeling on the Ohio River. This was one of the largest forces sent against the American settlements.

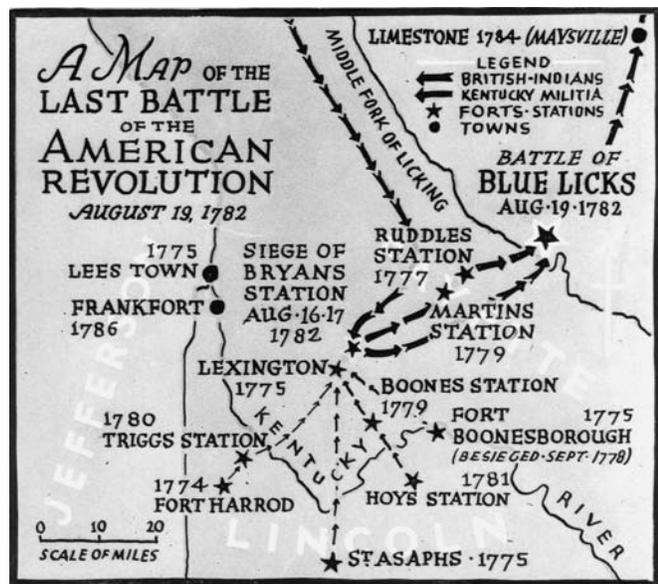
This expedition was called off, however, after scouts reported that General George Rogers Clark, whom the Indians feared more than any other American commander, was preparing to invade the Ohio Country from Kentucky. Caldwell's army returned to the Mad River to intercept the invasion, but Clark's army never materialized. As it turned out, the rumors were false: Clark had a large boat patrolling the Ohio River, but he was not prepared to launch an expedition. Frustrated with this turn of events, most of the Indians dispersed.

Siege and Relief of Bryan's Station⁴

With the remaining force of approximately 50 British rangers and 300 American Indians, Caldwell and McKee crossed into Kentucky. They hoped to surprise the settlement, but the settlers had learned of the approach of the army and “forted up,” though that fact wasn't known to attackers.

The presence of the concealed enemy, however, presented a difficult problem for the Kentuckians because Bryan's Station hadn't been built around a water source. The station's women usually gathered their water each morning at a spring on the south back of Elkhorn Creek, about 60 yards from the fort's north wall.

This dilemma was solved when 12 women and 16 “misses” agreed to retrieve their morning water as usual, deciding that the attackers probably wouldn't



KHS Collection

This detail from the George Gray mural illustrates the military movements of the Kentuckians and their British and Indian opponents during the Siege of Bryan Station and the subsequent Battle of Blue Licks.

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

show themselves if the station's male defenders weren't present.

The ruse worked, helping the station withstand what was to come.⁵

Caldwell and McKee's force laid siege to Bryan's Station on August 15, 1782, but withdrew on August 17 when they learned that a force of Kentucky militia was on the way.

The Kentucky militia who came to the relief of Bryan's Station on August 18 consisted of about 47 men from Fayette County and about 135 from Lincoln County. The highest-ranking officer, Colonel John Todd of the Fayette militia, was in overall command; under him were two lieutenant colonels, Stephen Trigg of Lincoln County and Daniel Boone of Fayette County. Benjamin Logan, colonel of the Lincoln militia, was still gathering men and was not present.⁶

The officers discussed whether to pursue the enemy force immediately before it could escape

across the Ohio River or to wait for Colonel Logan to arrive with reinforcements. Major Hugh McGary recommended waiting for Logan, but he was overruled by Colonel Todd, who shamed McGary by suggesting that he was timid. The Kentuckians therefore pursued the retreating British and Indian force, covering nearly 40 miles on horseback over an old buffalo trail before making camp.

The Battle of Blue Licks

The Kentuckians reached the Licking River on the morning of August 19, near a spring and salt lick known as the Lower Blue Licks. On the other side of the river, a few Indian scouts could be seen. Behind the Indians was a hill around which the river made a loop. Colonel Todd called a council and asked Boone, the most experienced woodsman, for his opinion. The frontiersman, who had been growing increasingly suspicious about the overly obvious trail the Indians had been leaving, advised his fellow officers that the Indians were trying to draw them into an ambush.

Major Hugh McGary, apparently eager to prove that he was not fearful, as Todd's earlier criticism had suggested, urged an immediate attack. He mounted his horse and rode across the ford in the river, shouting, "Them that ain't cowards, follow me." Men began to follow, as did the officers, who hoped to at least make an orderly attack. "We are all slaughtered men," said Boone as he crossed the river.

Misunderstanding the inappropriateness of McGary's pronouncement on the other side of the river, most of the men dismounted and formed into a battle line of three or four divisions. They advanced up the hill, Todd and McGary in the center, Trigg on the right, Boone on the left.

As Boone had suspected, Caldwell's force was waiting on the other side of the hill, concealed in ravines. As the Kentuckians reached the summit, the Indians opened fire with devastating effect. After only five minutes, the center and right of the Kentucky line gave way; only Boone's men on the left managing to push forward. Todd and Trigg, easy targets on horseback, were quickly shot down.

The Kentuckians began to flee wildly back down the hill, fighting hand-to-hand with the Indians who had flanked them. McGary rode up to Boone's com-



KHS Collection

The monument to those who served at Blue Licks, dedicated in 1928, lists the names of 64 men who died and 100 who escaped.

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

pany and told him that everyone was retreating and that Boone was now surrounded.

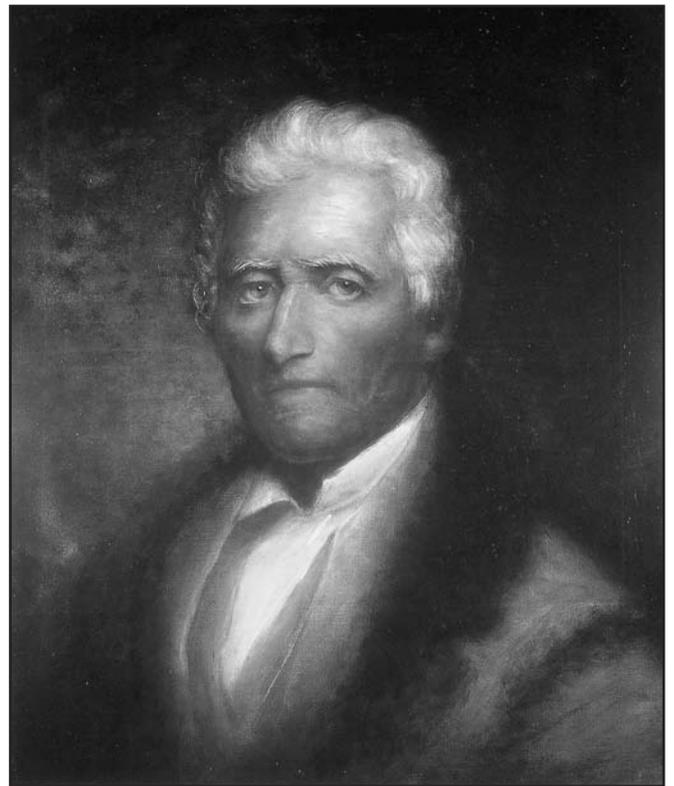
Boone gathered his men for a withdrawal. He grabbed a riderless horse and ordered his son, Israel Boone, to mount and make an escape. Israel refused to leave his father, however, and was shot through the neck as Daniel searched for another horse. Boone saw that his son's wound was mortal, mounted the horse, and fled. According to legend, Boone hid his son's body before leaving, but in reality there was no time.

Letter from Daniel Boone to the Governor of Virginia
Boone's Station, Fayette Co. August 30th, 1782.

SIR,—Present circumstances of affairs cause me to write to your Excellency as follows. On the 16th instant a large number of Indians with some white men attacked one of our frontier stations known by the name of Bryant's Station. The siege continued from about sunrise till about ten o'clock the next day, when they marched off. Notice being given to the neighboring stations, we immediately raised 181 horsemen commanded by Col. John Todd, including some of the Lincoln county militia, commanded by Col. Trigg, and having pursued about forty miles, on the 19th inst. We discovered the enemy lying in wait for us. On this discovery we formed our columns into one single line, and marched up in their front within about forty yards before there was a gun fired. Col. Trigg commanded on the right, myself on the left, Major McGary in the center, and Major Harlan the advance party in the front. From the manner in which we had formed, it fell to my lot to bring on the attack. This was done with a very heavy fire on both sides, and extending back of the line to Col. Trigg, where the enemy was so strong that they rushed up and broke the right wing at the first fire. Thus the enemy got in our rear, and we were compelled to retreat with the loss of seventy-seven of our men and twelve wounded. Afterwards we were reinforced by Col. Logan, which made our force four hundred and sixty men. We marched again to the battle ground, but finding the enemy had gone

“So valiantly did our small party fight, to the memory of those who unfortunately fell in the Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid.”

—*Daniel Boone*



KHS Collection

Daniel Boone not only was forced to follow his reckless fellow Kentuckians into a deadly ambush, he also suffered the loss of his son Israel, who was mortally wounded in the neck after refusing to leave his father's side.

we proceeded to bury the dead. We found forty-three on the ground, and many lay about which we could not stay to find, hungry and weary as we were, and somewhat dubious that the enemy might not have gone off quite. By the sign we thought the Indians had exceeded four hundred; while the

whole of this militia of the county does not amount to more than one hundred and thirty. From these facts your Excellency may form an idea of our situation. I know that your own circumstances are critical, but are we to

be wholly forgotten? I hope not. I trust about five hundred men may be sent to our assistance immediately. If these shall be stationed as our county lieutenants shall deem necessary, it may be the means of saving our part of the country; but if they are placed under the direction of Gen. Clark, they will be of little or no service to our settlement. The Falls lie one hundred miles west of us and the Indi-

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

ans northeast; while our men are frequently called to protect them. I have encouraged the people in this country all that I could, but I can no longer justify them or myself to risk our lives here under such extraordinary hazards. The inhabitants of this county are very much alarmed at the thoughts of the Indians bringing another campaign into our country this Fall. If this should be the case, it will break up these settlements. I hope therefore your Excellency will take the matter into your consideration, and send us some relief as quick as possible. These are my sentiments without consulting any person. Col. Logan will I expect, immediately send you an express, by whom I humbly request your Excellency's answer—in the mean while I remain,

Subscribed DANIEL BOONE.

Aftermath of the battle

In his, *History of Kentucky* Humphrey Marshall stated that “never had Kentucky experienced so fatal a blow, as that at the Blue Licks.”

Marshall also stated that “The whole loss on the side of Kentucky was sixty killed, and seven made prisoners.” He added that the Indians massacred four of the prisoners. It would seem that number was somewhat higher. At the surrender of Fort Ticonderoga in July 1783, 16 of the American prisoners released were survivors taken at Blue Licks, they were:

Elijah Allen	John Beasley
John Bland	Osburn Bland
Thomas Blenfield	Hugh Cunningham
James Ledgerwood	John McMurtry
John Morgan	John Neal
Jesse Peck	John Price
Lewis Rose	Mathias Rose
John Stepleton	Jesse Yocum ⁷

Although he had not taken part in the battle, General Clark, as senior militia officer, was widely condemned in Kentucky for the Blue Licks disaster. In response to the criticism, Clark launched a retaliatory raid into the Ohio Country. In November 1782, he led more than 1,000 men, including Benjamin Logan and Daniel Boone, on an expedition that destroyed five Shawnee villages on the Great Miami River, the last major offensive of the war. No battles were fought in that engagement because the Shaw-

nees declined to engage the Kentuckians, instead pulling back to their villages on the Mad River.

Those villages were subsequently destroyed by Benjamin Logan in 1786 at the outset of the Northwest Indian War. On that expedition, Hugh McGary confronted the Shawnee chief Moluntha, asking him if he had been at Blue Licks. Moluntha had not taken part in the Battle of Blue Licks—relatively few Shawnees had—but he evidently misunderstood McGary's question and nodded his head in agreement. McGary then killed the Shawnee leader with a tomahawk. Logan relieved McGary of command and later had him court-martialed.

In 1882, Kentucky Governor Luke P. Blackburn dedicated the Blue Licks Monument, and laid its cornerstone. Blue Licks State Park was established in the 1930s.

Heroines of Bryan's Station

On August 18, 1896, a monument was established at Bryan's Station by the Lexington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to honor the memory of the brave women who carried water to the soon-to-be-besieged fort under the rifles of several hundred Indians.



KHS Collection

This monument honors the 12 women and 16 “misses” that left Bryan Station, knowing that Indians were waiting in ambush. Calculating that the Indians ready to lay siege to the station wouldn't show themselves, the women pretended they were unaware of their attackers' presence. Filling pails and gourds at the spring, they obtained the precious water that would sustain the station during the siege.

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

The structure is in the form of a stone wall, which surrounds the spring from which the water was taken.

The reputed leader of the women was Mrs. Jemima Suggett Johnson, who left her infant son Richard in the hands of her daughter Sally and her sons James and William inside the station, taking her 10-year-old daughter Betsy with her. The infant, Richard Mentor Johnson would become vice president of the United States (1837-41) and, at the 1813 Battle of the Thames, the reputed slayer of Tecumseh.

Historian Reuben T. Durrett published a partial list of the women and their daughters in 1897. They are:

Mrs. Jemima Suggett Johnson and her daughter Betsy
Mrs. Sara Page Craig and her daughters Betsy, Sally, Nancy, and Polly
Mrs. Lucy Hawkins Craig and her daughters Polly and Frankey
Mrs. Polly Hawkins Craig and her daughter Sally
Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson and her daughters Polly and Nancy
Mrs. Jane Craig Saunders and her daughters Betsy and Lydia
Mrs. Elizabeth Craig Cave and her daughters Hannah and Polly
Mrs. Fanny Sanders Lea
Mrs. Sara Clement Hammond
Mrs. Harriet Morgan Nelson
Mrs. Mary Herndon Ficklin and her daughter Philadelphia
Mrs. Mildred Davis Suggett

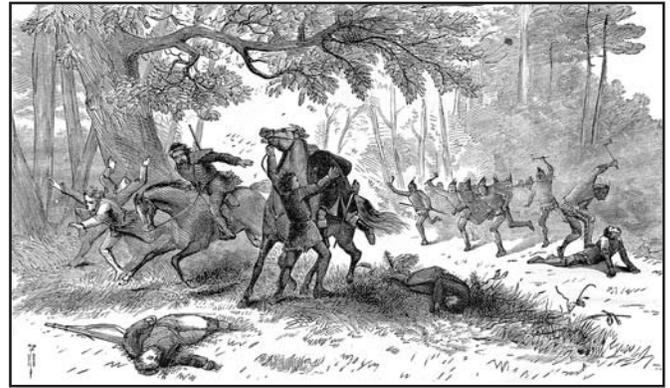
Names Inscribed on the Battle of Blue Licks Monument, Robertson County, Kentucky. Including a list of participants.

Front of Memorial Monument

“This monument, the gift of a grateful commonwealth, commemorates the heroic pioneers who, in defence of Kentucky, here fought and fell in the Battle of Blue Licks, August 19, 1782.”

Colonel-Commandant
John Todd, killed⁸

Lieutenant-Colonels
Daniel Boone⁹
Stephen Trigg, killed¹⁰



Aaron Reynolds gives up his horse to Captain Robert Patterson in this depiction of the retreat of the ambushed Kentuckians that appeared in John A. McClung's book *Sketches of Western Adventure* in 1879.

Majors
Edward Bulger¹¹
Silas Harlan¹²

Captains
John Allison
John Beasley¹³
John Bulger, killed
John Gordon, killed¹⁴
Samuel Johnson
Joseph Kincaid, killed¹⁵
Gabriel Madison, killed
William McBride, killed¹⁶
Clough Overton, killed
Robert Patterson¹⁷

Lieutenants
William Gilvins, killed¹⁸
Thomas Hinson, killed
John Kennedy, killed
James McGuire, killed
Barnett Rogers, killed

Ensign
John Murtry¹⁹
Joseph Lindsey, killed

“So valiantly did our small party fight, to the memory of those who unfortunately fell in the Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid.”

Daniel Boone

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

Monument dedicated August 19, 1928

Right side of Monument

“The men who fought in the Battle of the Blue Licks were as well qualified from experience to face the Indians as any body of men that were ever collected.”

Robert Patterson

Privates who were killed:

Charles Black²⁰
Samuel Brannon
Israel Boone²¹
James Brown
Esau Corn
Hugh Cunningham²²
John Douglass²³
William Eades²⁴
Thomas Farrier
Charles Ferguson
Ezekiel Field²⁵
John Folley
Daniel Foster
John Fry
Little James Graham
Jervis Green
Daniel Greggs²⁶
Francis Harper
Matthew Harper
William Harris
John Jolly
James Ledgewood²⁷
Francis McBride
Isaac McCracken
Andrew McConnell
Henry Miller
Gilbert Marshall
John Nelson
John Nutt
John O’Neal²⁸
Joseph Oldfield
Drury Polley²⁹
John Price³⁰
William Robertson
Matthias Rose³¹
James Smith
William Smith
John Stapleton³²

William Stephens
Val Stern
John Stevenson
William Stewart
Richard Tomlinson
Israel Wilson
John Wilson [1]
John Wilson [2]
Matthew Wylie
William Shannon³³
Archibald Woods

Ottawas and Chippawas

Back Side of Monument

Shawnees and Delawares

“To the unknown heroes who took part in the Battle of Blue Licks.”

Bottom of Monument

“This ‘Last Battle of the Revolution’ was fought between 182 Kentuckians, commanded by Colonel John Todd, on the American side, and about 240 Indians and Canadians, commanded by Captain William Caldwell, on the British side.”

Left Side of Monument

Wyandots and Mingo

“They advanced in the divisions in good order and gave us a volley and stood to it very well for some time.”

Captain William Caldwell

Privates who escaped:

Thomas Akers
William Aldridge
Elijah Allen³⁴
James Allen
William Barbee
Samuel Boone
Squire Boone, Jr.³⁵
Abraham Bowman
Thomas Brooker
Jacob Coffean
James Colburn³⁶
Joseph Collins

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

Edward Corn
George Corn
Jerry Craig
Whitfield Craig
William Custer
Richard Davis
Theodorus Davis
Peter Dierly
Thomas Ficklin
William Field
Henry French
Thomas Gist
Edward Graham
James Graham
Squire Grant
Henry Grider
Jeremiah Gullian
John Hambleton
Peter Harget
John Hart
Benjamin Hayden
James Hays
James Harrod
Henry Higgins
John Hinch
Charles Hunter
Jacob Hunter
Ephraim January
James M. January
James Kincaid
William Lam
Wainright Lea
John Little
James McBride
James McConnell
William May
James McCullough
Andrew Morgan
James Morgan³⁷
John Morgan³⁸
Mordecai Morgan
Benjamin Netherland
Henry Nixon
James Norton
Matthew Patterson
John Peake
Alexander Penlin
John Pitman

Robert Poague
Elisha Pruett
James Ray
Aaron Reynolds
James Rose
Lewis Rose³⁹
Andrew Rule
Abraham Scholl
Joseph Scholl
Peter Scholl
Robert Scott
Samuel Scott
Bartlett Searcy
John Searcy
Samuel Shortridge
William Shott⁴⁰
Edmond Singleton
George Smith
John Smith
Anthony Sowdusky
Andrew Steele
Jacob Stevens
Thomas Stevenson
Jacob Stucker
James Swart
John Sumner⁴¹
James Twyman⁴²
Jesse Yokum⁴³
Henry Wilson
Josiah Wilson
James Elijah Woods, captured
Samuel Woods

Small Monument to the Left of Large One

This memorial was erected to honor those individuals whose names were omitted from the original monument. New research has provided these additional names and corrected previous information regarding those individuals who so gloriously served Kentucky at the Battle of Blue Licks.

Thomas Boone, killed
John Childress, captured but escaped
James Ward, escaped

This monument erected in April 1999 by the Childress family association and the Kentucky Department of Parks.

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

These following individuals as likely participants in the Battle of Blue Licks, were omitted from the monument due to insufficient proof:

Majors
Levi Todd
Hugh McGary
George Michael Bedinger
Samuel Shannon
John Bradford
Benjamin A. Cooper
James Ellis
William Ellis

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Endnotes

¹William Caldwell (b. about 1750, d. 20 February 1822) was an Irish immigrant who fought in several conflicts as a British soldier. In 1774, he served in Dunmore's War. With the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Caldwell served with Lord Dunmore's forces in the attack on Norfolk, Va., and was injured. Afterwards, he was appointed a captain in Butler's Rangers. Based in Detroit, he led a force of about 50 rangers in many battles and expeditions in Kentucky and the Ohio Country. In 1782, he led his rangers and American Indians in victories over the Crawford expedition, and at the battle of Blue Licks. After the war, he settled in the Detroit region. He became a merchant; his partner was Matthew Elliott. With the outbreak of the War of 1812, he was given command of a group called Caldwell's Rangers (or the Western Rangers). He fought at the battle of the Thames and the battle of

Longwoods, among many other actions.

²Butler's Rangers (1777–1784) was a Loyalist (or "Tory") irregular militia regiment in the British Army during the American Revolutionary War. Originally a ranger company of General Sir John Johnson's King's Royal Regiment of New York under the command of Major John Butler, they were reorganized and expanded to regimental size on the orders of Sir Guy Carleton to serve with and lead the Iroquois forces of Joseph Brant against the Americans. Their uniforms consisted of a green coat and waistcoat faced with red, buff breeches, white leggings and a hat of the Foot Regiment pattern. Most members of the regiment were Loyalists from upstate New York, and they fought principally in western New York and Pennsylvania, but ranged as far west as Ohio and Michigan and as far south as Virginia (where, in August, 1782, Rangers burned the settlement of Wheeling). They were accused of participating in — or at least failing to prevent — the Wyoming Valley massacre of July 1778 and the Cherry Valley massacre of November 1778 of white settlers (including some Loyalists) by Brant's Iroquois. These actions earned the Rangers a reputation for exceptional savagery.

³Simon Girty (b. 1741, d. 18 February 1818). Born in Pennsylvania, Girty and his brothers were taken prisoners when still children by the Senecas and adopted by them. It would be seven years before Girty returned to his family, during which time he had come to prefer the Indian way of life. During the American Revolution, he first sided with the Colonial Revolutionaries, but later served with the Loyalists and thus was viewed by American frontiersmen as a renegade and a turncoat. Girty is also credited with saving the lives of many American prisoners of the natives, often by buying their freedom at his own expense. After the end of the war, Girty settled in Canada. He retired to his farm near Fort Malden (present-day Amherstburg, Ontario) prior to the outbreak of the War of 1812. Girty's son was killed in that conflict, reportedly while trying to rescue a wounded British officer from the battlefield. Despite popular myths to the contrary, Simon Girty had no part in that war, except as a refugee when the British retreated from Fort Malden. Nor was he killed with Tecumseh at the Battle of the Thames, as was widely reported. More than 60 years old, he was increasingly infirm with arthritis and had failing eyesight. Girty returned to his farm after the war and died completely blind in 1818.

⁴Bryan Station (also Bryan's Station, and often misspelled Bryant's Station) was an early fortified settlement about five miles from Lexington on the "south bank of the head branch of the Elkhorn" on "the road leading to Paris." [See Reuben T. Durrett, *Bryant's Station and the Memorial Proceedings...* (Louisville, 1897: Filson Club Publications, No. 12), p. 18.] It was located on present day Bryan Station Road, about three miles north of New Circle Road, on the southern bank of Elkhorn Creek near Briar Hill Road. The settlement was established circa 1775-76 by brothers Morgan, James, William and Joseph Bryan from North Carolina. The occupants of this parallelogram of some forty log cabins withstood several Indian attacks, the most important of which occurred in August 1782

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

when they were besieged by about 300 Indians and Canadians under Captain William Caldwell and Simon Girty. The siege was lifted after Indian scouts reported that Kentucky militia was on the way. The Lexington chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a monument in August 1896 to commemorate the importance of a nearby spring in helping stave off the attack by Indians and Canadians. Bryan Station High School, located a couple of miles south of the fort's site, was named in honor, and the athletic teams compete under the name "Defenders."

⁵Reuben T. Durrett, *Bryant's Station and the Memorial Proceedings...* (Louisville, 1897: Filson Club Publications, No. 12), pages 38-40.

⁶Benjamin Logan (c.1742 – December 11, 1802) American pioneer, soldier, and politician from Shelby County, Kentucky. As colonel of the Kentucky County militia of Virginia during the American Revolutionary War, he was second-in-command of militia in Kentucky. Logan was a leader in Kentucky's efforts to become a state. Benjamin was born in Augusta County, Virginia, the eldest son of David (1706-1757) and Jane (McKinley) Logan. At fifteen, Logan's father died, and Benjamin inherited his father's 860 acre farm. He would marry Ann Montgomery in 1772, and they raised eight children. In 1764, Logan saw service in Henry Bouquet's campaign against the Shawnee Indians. In 1774, he was a lieutenant in Lord Dunmore's War. The next year he moved to Kentucky, then still part of Virginia, starting the settlement of St. Asaph's, near Stanford, building Logan's Fort there. In 1776, he was appointed sheriff and justice of the peace. During the Revolution, he was the second ranking officer in the Virginia militia for Kentucky County, as colonel; and later became a general. He fought Indians north of the Ohio River, under the command of George Rogers Clark, as well as in Kentucky. Logan and Clark were in frequent disagreement over strategy. After the Revolution, Logan was active in Kentucky politics, especially the campaign to establish it as a separate state. He served as the local representative in the Virginia House of Delegates, from 1781 until 1787, where he first agitated for statehood for Kentucky. In the fall of 1786, Logan led a force of Federal soldiers and mounted Kentucky militia against several Shawnee towns in the Ohio Country along the Mad River, protected primarily by noncombatants while the warriors were raiding forts in Kentucky. Logan burned the Indian towns and food supplies, and killed or captured a considerable number of Indians, including their chief, who was soon murdered by one of Logan's men. Logan's Raid and the death of the chief angered the Shawnees, who retaliated by further escalating their attacks on the whites, escalating the Northwest Indian War. Logan was one of those who called for the Danville Convention, and was a delegate when they wrote the first Kentucky constitution in 1791 and 1792. After statehood, he served in the Kentucky state House of Representatives from 1792 to 1795. Logan later ran unsuccessfully for governor, in 1796 and 1800. In 1802, he died of a stroke at home, about six miles southwest of Shelbyville, and was buried in a family plot there. Logan County, Kentucky and Logan County, Ohio are named for

him, as is the Benjamin Logan Local School District in Ohio.

⁷*The Army and Navy Chronicle and Scientific Repository*, Feb 15, 1844, p. 3. The names of John and Osburn Bland, Thomas Blenfield, and Jesse Peck do not appear on the monument at Blue Licks.

⁸John Todd (March 27, 1750–August 18, 1782) was a frontier military officer during the American Revolutionary War and the first administrator of the Illinois County of the state of Virginia before that state ceded the territory to the federal government. Born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, the son of David Todd and the brother of Levi Todd, the grandfather of Mary Todd Lincoln. He was educated in Virginia at a school run by his uncle, the Rev. John Todd. After obtaining a license to practice law, Todd settled in Fincastle, Virginia. In 1774, Todd served in the Battle of Point Pleasant, which was fought near present-day Point Pleasant, West Virginia and is celebrated in West Virginia as the first battle in the American Revolutionary War. He was then drawn west into the recently opened frontier of Kentucky where he purchased land near Lexington. Todd served in the Virginia Legislature in 1776 and then participated in the expedition led by George Rogers Clark against Kaskaskia and Vincennes that captured the Illinois Country from the British in 1778. With Clark as commandant of the entire territory north and west of the Ohio river, Todd was appointed as County Lieutenant and Civil Commandant of "Illinois County," which had been organized by the Virginia Legislature in 1778 with the government based in Kaskaskia. In 1780, Todd returned to Richmond, Virginia, as a delegate from the Kentucky County to the Virginia Legislature, where he married Jane Hawkins. His wife settled on their property in Lexington, while he left to administer affairs in Illinois County. Because of his duties on the frontier, he was seldom home. In 1780, the Virginia Legislature had divided the original Kentucky County into three counties: Lincoln, Jefferson, and Fayette. Colonel Todd was placed in charge of Fayette County militia with Daniel Boone as Lieutenant Colonel. Todd died in 1782 in the Battle of Blue Licks. . Todd County is named in his honor. Todd's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

⁹Daniel Boone (b. 22 October 1734, d. 26 September 1820) American pioneer and hunter whose frontier exploits made him one of the first folk heroes of the United States. Boone is most famous for his exploration and settlement of what is now the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Despite resistance from American Indians, for whom Kentucky was a traditional hunting ground, in 1775 Boone blazed the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. There he founded Boonesborough, one of the first settlements beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Before the end of the 18th century, more than 200,000 people entered Kentucky by following the route marked by Boone. Boone was a militia officer during the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783). Boone was captured by Shawnees in 1778 and adopted into the tribe, but he escaped and continued to help defend the Kentucky settlements. He was elected to the first of his three terms in the

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

Virginia General Assembly during the war, and fought in the Battle of Blue Licks in 1782, the last battle of the American Revolution. Boone worked as a surveyor and merchant after the war, but he went deep into debt as a Kentucky land speculator. Frustrated with legal problems resulting from his land claims, in 1799 Boone resettled in Missouri, where he spent his final years. His remains were reburied in the Frankfort Cemetery in 1845. Boone County, Kentucky is named in his honor.

¹⁰ Stephen Trigg (b. 1744, d. 19 August 1782) American pioneer and soldier from Virginia. Born the son of William and Mary (Johns) Trigg, Trigg mainly worked as a public servant and militia officer during the early years of the frontier counties in southwest Virginia and those portions that would later form Kentucky. He was one of the wealthiest men on the frontier at the time. He was a delegate to the first Virginia Revolutionary conventions and was a member of the Fincastle Committee of Safety that drafted the Fincastle Resolutions, which was the precursor for the Declaration of Independence made by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. He was also elected to the Virginia House of Delegates.

Trigg was appointed to the Virginia Land Court Commission in 1779, charged with settling titles to land on the Kentucky frontier. After completing his duties on the court, he settled in Kentucky and continued his public service. In 1782, when Indian tribes, in conjunction with British forces, attacked Bryan Station in Kentucky, several Kentucky militia companies converged to go after the attackers. Trigg commanded one wing, Daniel Boone another. However, it was part of a planned ambush, and Trigg, along with many other men, including Boone's son, were killed. After the battle, Trigg's body was found quartered. In recognition of his role in the formation of Kentucky, Trigg County, Kentucky was named in his honor. Trigg's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

¹¹ Bugler's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. His rank is listed as Captain, not Major.

¹² Silas Harlan, a pioneer, was born on March 17, 1753 in Berkeley County, West Virginia, the son of George and Ann (Hurst) Harlan. Journeying to Kentucky with James Harrod in 1774, Harlan served as scout, hunter, and military leader of the rank of major. Harlan assisted Harrod's party in Harrodsburg to pick up gunpowder to be delivered to the Kentucky settlers to assist them against the British in the Revolutionary War. Harlan built a log stockade with the help of his uncle Jacob and his brother James near Danville known as "Harlan's Station." Harlan served under George Rogers Clark in the Illinois campaign of 1778-79 against the British. He also commanded a company in John Bowman's raid on Old Chillicothe in 1779, and assisted Clark in establishing Fort Jefferson at the mouth of the Ohio River in 1780.

Silas Harlan died leading the advance party at the Battle of Blue Licks on August 19, 1782. At the time of his death Harlan was engaged to Sarah Caldwell, who later married his brother James and became the grandmother of U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan. Harlan County was

named after Silas Harlan. . Harlan's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

¹³ Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

¹⁴ Gordon's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

¹⁵ Also listed as Kinhead.

¹⁶ McBride's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. His rank is listed as major, not captain.

¹⁷ Robert Patterson (1753-1827) was an American Revolutionary War veteran who helped found the cities of Lexington, Kentucky, and Cincinnati. Patterson was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War and served in the Indian campaigns with George Rogers Clark. Patterson moved from Kentucky in 1788 and was one of the three founders of Cincinnati. Patterson moved to Dayton, Ohio in 1802 and continued his military service as a Quartermaster during the War of 1812. Patterson's farm, Rubicon, was located two miles south of Dayton where he and his wife Elizabeth (Lindsay) raised eight children. The land is currently part of the University of Dayton and stretched from there west to the Old soldiers' home (presently the Dayton VA Medical Center). His home is now a historic house museum, known as the Patterson Homestead.

¹⁸ Also listed as Givins.

¹⁹ Also listed as McMurtry. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

²⁰ Clarence Black.

²¹ Son of Daniel Boone. Boone's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. He is listed as Captain Isaac Boone.

²² Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

²³ Also listed as Douglas.

²⁴ Also listed as Eads.

²⁵ Also listed as Fields.

²⁶ Also listed as Gregg.

²⁷ Also listed as Ledgerwood. Listed as captured and killed, however he was released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

²⁸ Also listed as Neal. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

²⁹ Also listed as Polly.

³⁰ Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

³¹ Matthew Rose. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

³² Also listed as Stepleton. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

³³ Shannon served as an Ensign.

³⁴ Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

³⁵ Wounded.

³⁶ Wounded.

³⁷ Listed as captured, but escaped. According to a printed story some years after, Morgan had been wounded in the battle,

Continued on Page 73

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family

By James R. Hancock

In the days before Social Security, a person's ability to secure a federal pension through his congressman often meant the difference between a quiet retirement and difficult one. With so much riding on each application, Federal authorities attempted to ensure that each case was legitimate, and each applicant had actually performed the service he claimed. When Robert Asa Hancock applied for his Civil War pension, therefore, he had quite a bit of explaining to do when the birth date on his application did not match the one from his war record. As shown below, Hancock referred to the family Bible to explain the inconsistency. Even in 1914, Hancock was confused about his age, having just turned 71, instead of 73, as he stated in his deposition. Prior to his service as a deputy collector with the Internal Revenue Service, Hancock had been warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary in the late 1800s. James R. Hancock is a great-grandson of Robert Asa Hancock.

The following is from a Deposition dated June 3, 1913 in the (Union) Civil War Pension Record (Certificate No. 157,828) of Robert Asa Hancock:

Deposition in the Case of Robert A. Hancock, No. 157,828, On this 3rd day of June 1913, at Louisville, county of Jefferson, State of Kentucky, before me, H.B. Swearingen, a Special Examiner of the Bureau of Pensions, personally appeared Robert A. Hancock, who, being by me first duly sworn to answer truly all interrogatories propounded to him during this special examination of aforesaid claim for pension, deposes and says:

I am 73 years of age. I am Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth District of Kentucky, assign to work with the Revenue Agent. My residence and Post Office address is Pewee Valley, Oldham Co., Ky. I was enrolled Aug. 12, 1862 for Co. H. 9th Ky. Cav. and was discharged March 12, 1863 for disability, gunshot wound in wrist. On Sept 21, 1864 I was enrolled for Co. B 54th Ky. Inf. and mustered in as 2d Lt. and was discharged with the Reg Sept 1, 1865. I do not recollect what age I gave when I enlisted but had always thought I was born January 3, 1843. When I first applied for pension under the age law I took my age from a transcript I had made from the Family Bible sometime before. I now have the old Bible before me and find that the copy formerly used was incorrectly copied. This record in the old Bible is in my father's own hand writing showing clearly that my birth occurred Jan. 3, 1842 instead of 1843. At the time I made the first statement I had

only the transcript which I thought was correct but since that time I have discovered the old Bible in the possession of my niece, Mrs. Jessie Smith of Sulphur, Henry Co., Ky. and borrowed it for the purpose of getting the record correct.¹

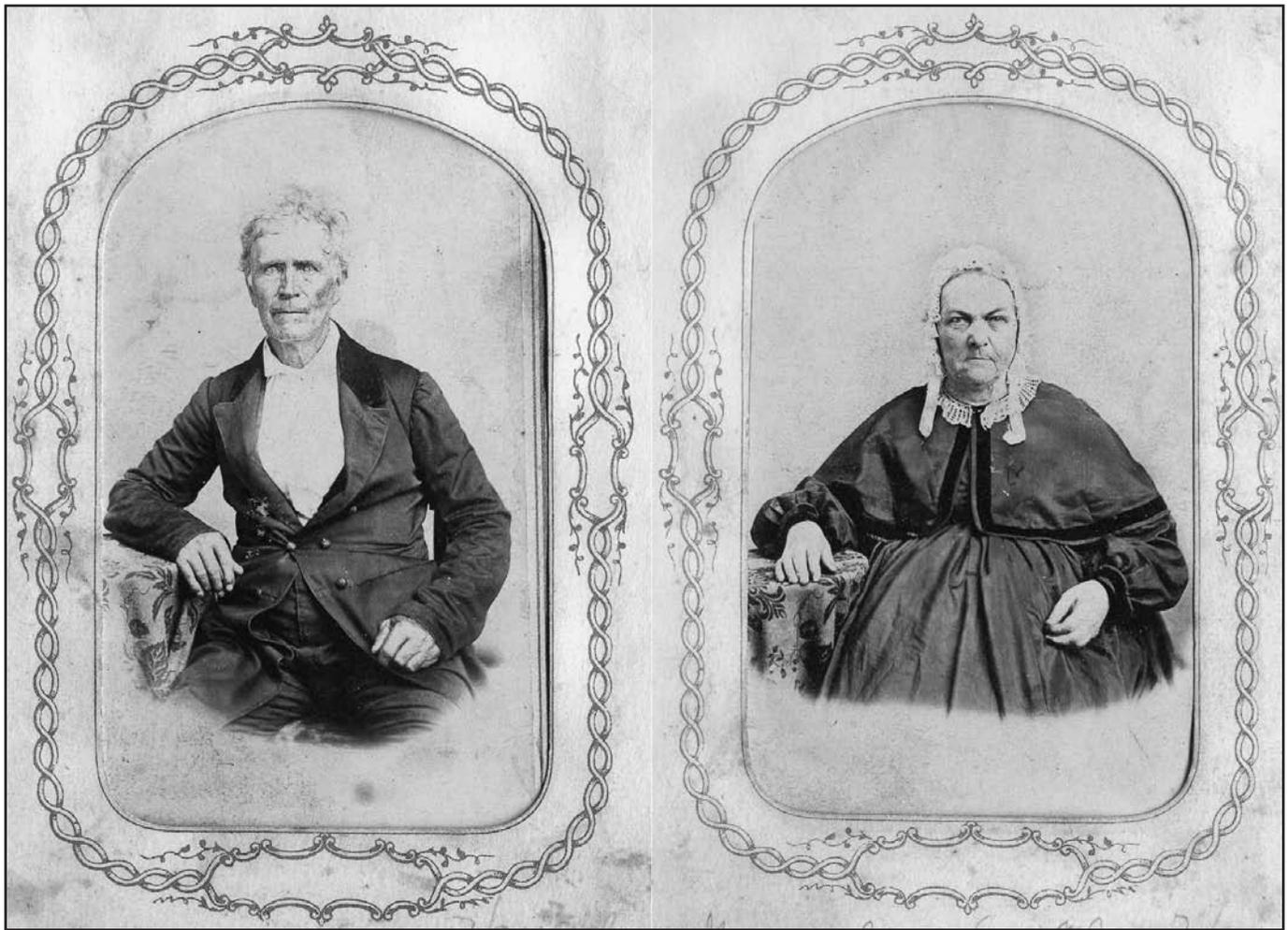
My statement was made from the original record.

The record is as follows: The Bible published by Fessenden & Co. and Peck and Wood, Brattleboro, 1834. The Bible is much worn and the record pages have become loose from long use. The records are plainly written in a clear hand and the ink is yellow from age.

Record:

Thos. B. Hancock	was born 26th Oct 1799.
Lucy Coombs	15th Novr 1802
Martha Katherine Hancock	born 2 nd May 1823.
Margaret Jane Hancock	20 th Febr'y 1825. Dead.
Mary Hancock	26 th Oct 1826. Dead.
Simon J. Hancock	18 th ----- Dead.
Emily Hancock	13 th Apl 1830. Dead.
Susan Hancock	10 th Decr 1832 Dead.
Joel H. Hancock	1st Novr 1834
Sophonra Hancock	5 Febr'y 1835 changed to 1836.
William Hancock	1st Octr 1837 changed to 1838.

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*



Thomas Bartlett (1799-1879) and Lucy (Coombs) (1802-1878) Hancock were married on January 23, 1822 in Henry County. The Hancocks and their 15 children lived near Campbellsburg, where Thomas operated a farm, in addition to serving as Henry County sheriff and a colonel in the state militia.

Jesse Hancock 1st March 1838 changed to
1839.

Richard G. Hancock 1st Oct 1839 changed to
1840.

Robert A. Hancock 3d Jany 1842.

The changes noted above seem to be in the same hand writing but made somewhat later though the ink shows that the writing is very old. (H.B.S.)

This writing I know to be my father's hand and he always wrote with a quill pen. He has been dead 30 years or more but I do not recall the exact date of his death. There were three children younger than I but their births do not appear on this record. This record may have been made before they were born or the record of their birth may have been torn off as one half

of one page is missing and my name is at the bottom of the page containing the other children's age. The date of my birth is the latest date appearing in the entire record and all the records have the appearance of having been written at the same time.

I thought my record was correct till I heard from the Bureau that there was some discrepancy in statements on file and then I looked up the old Bible and got the correct date from that.

My correct name is as stated above but when I enrolled in the first service the A was omitted and my pension claim was originally filed as of the first service and I should prefer to have my name appear correctly on the rolls. I have heard the foregoing read have understood your questions and my answers are correctly recorded.

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*

Signed by Robert A. Hancock—Subscribed and sworn before me this 3rd day of June 1923 and I certify that the contents were fully made known to deponent before signing. H.B. Swearingen, Special Examiner.

The Hancock Family

Robert Asa Hancock was a son of Thomas Bartlett Hancock (b. 26 October 1799, Ky. or Va., d. 5 September 1879, Henry County) and Lucy Coombs (b. 15 November 1802, Ky., d. 26 October 1878, Henry County, Ky.). His grandfather was Simon Hancock.

Simon Hancock

Simon Hancock² was a signer of Loudoun County, Virginia's "Resolution of 1774," in which "Freeholders and other inhabitants" resolved to support "our brethren of Boston" against the British blockade of Boston Harbor. The language of the document, which protests taxation without representation and punishments without trial, is very much akin to Declaration of Independence drafted two years later, and certainly placed its signers in peril. His first wife, Mary Smith, a daughter of Thomas Smith and Anne Fowke Mason, was a first cousin of founding father George Mason (1725-1792). The children of Simon and Mary included Samuel (d. before 1806), Elizabeth, William Mason, Susannah, and Ann (all born between 1770 and 1780).³

After Mary's death, Simon took his family to Kentucky, via Limestone (present-day Maysville), and settled in Woodford County. He lived there from 1791 to 1794, when he moved to Franklin County. He married Martha "Patsy" Bartlett in Woodford County in 1796. Simon and Martha's children included Mary "Polly," Martha "Patsy," Thomas Bartlett, Emily, and Jane "Jensy."

By 1810, the family lived in Henry County, where Simon died about 1830, and where Martha died in 1834.

Thomas Bartlett Hancock

Thomas Bartlett Hancock was a son of Simon Hancock (b. about 1745, possibly Prince William County, Va., d. about 1830, Henry County, Ky.) and Martha "Patsy" Bartlett (b. between 1760 and 1765, probably Spotsylvania County, Va.) of Virginia. Lucy Coombs was a daughter of Jonah Coombs (b. about 1765, Loudoun County, Va.) and Catherine Webb

(b. 25 August 1766, Va.).⁴

Thomas and Lucy were married on 23 January 1822 in Henry County, Ky. He was 60 in 1860, worth \$7,000, and living with Lucy and his children Jesse, Richard, Robert, Thomas, John, and Nancy, as well as his daughter Sophronia Martin, her husband William Martin and their children Thomas, Millard F., and Luella J.⁵

Thomas once was sheriff of Henry County and a colonel in the Kentucky militia.⁶

Thomas and Lucy had 15 children, all born in Kentucky. Besides Robert Asa, they were: Martha Katherine (b. 2 May 1823), Margaret Jane (b. 20 February 1825), Mary (b. 26 October 1826), Simon J. (b. between 1827 and 1829), Emily (b. 13 April 1830), Susan (b. 10 December 1832), Joel H. (b. 1 November 1834, Henry County), Sophronia "Sophia"/"Fronia" (b. 5 February 1836), William (b. 1 October 1836, probably Henry County, d. 8 June 1917, Sulphur, Henry County), Jesse C. (b. 1 March 1839, near New Castle, Henry County), Richard G. (b. 1 October 1840), Thomas H. (b. about 1844, Henry County), John (b. about 1846), and Nancy (b. 16 April 1847). (Thomas H., John, and Nancy were the "missing" children Robert Asa Hancock referred to in his deposition.)⁷

Thomas Bartlett Hancock built and divided his farm near Campbellsburg over the years until, by 1870, many of his children and grandchildren were living next door or near to him. They were listed in order in the 1870 Census. Joel W. Hancock (head of household), 36, b. Ky., farmer worth \$200, with Emily, 25, b. Ky., Keeping house; Ida, 9; Richard, 7; William, 5; Linerva, 3; and Merrill Forbush, 77 (b. about 1793, Ky.). Next was Thomas Hancock (head of household), 70, b. Ky., farmer, worth \$1,000/\$10 worth of real estate, with Lucy, 69, b. Ky., Keeping house; Richard, 27, b. Ky.; Thomas, 25, b. Ky.; and Nancy, 20, b. Ky. Also in the household was "Sophia" Martin, 34, b. Ky.; Thomas Martin, 16, b. Ky.; Jessee Martin, 10, b. Ky.; Lewalla, 7, b. Ky.; and Marshall Butler, 16, b. Ky., black male; and Gracy Butler, 11, b. Ky., black female. Next was Robert Hancock (head of household), 30, b. Ky., "Keeping house" (?), with Martha, 25, b. Ky., "Domestic Serv't" (?); and Nettie Roberson, 18, b. Ky., farmer, worth \$700(?).⁸

Many family members were buried in the Han-

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*

cock family cemetery in Sulphur, Henry County or the Masonic Cemetery in Campbellsburg.

Martha Katherine Hancock

Martha Katherine Hancock (b. 2 May 1823, Ky., d. 10 April 1882), a daughter of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Robert Carroll King (b. 14 October 1817), a farmer, on 7 December 1841 in Henry County.⁹

The couple's children included Nancy "Nannie" (b. 28 April 1843, Port William—present-day Carrollton, Ky.), Lucy Catherine (b. 2 June 1846, Port William), Betsy Ann "Bettie" (b. 16 April 1847, Port William), Thomas Hancock (b. 29 December 1854, Port William), John William (b. 10 January 1859), and Sophronia Kathleen (b. 1862).

Joel H. Hancock

Joel H. Hancock (b. 1 November 1834, Henry County, d. 1896), a son of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Emily L. Mitchell (b. 1843, Henry County) in 1858. In 1860, he was 26 and worth \$600, living next door to his father with Emily, 17, and John T., eight months.

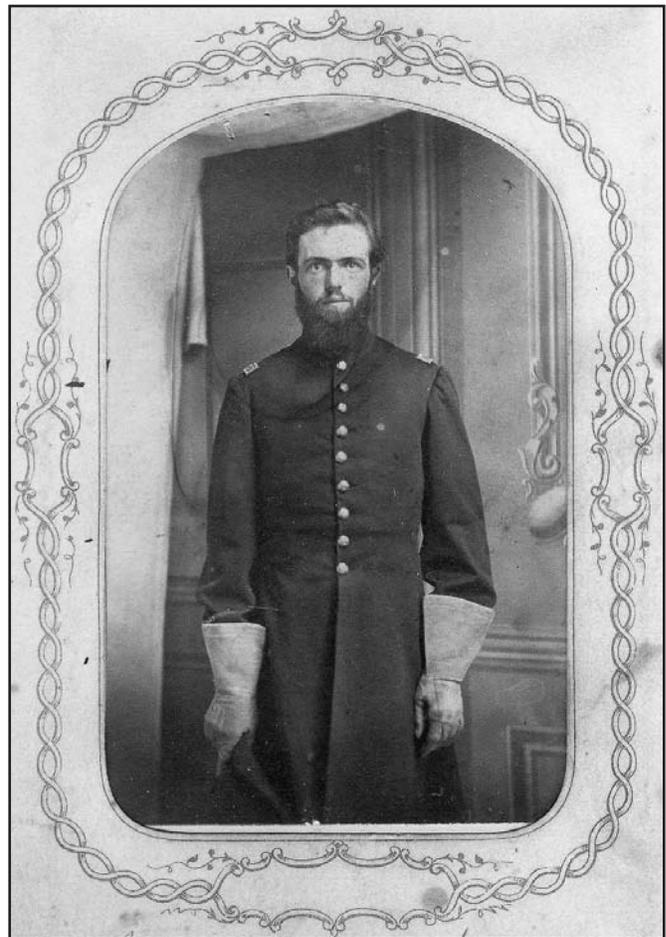
The couple's children included John T. (b. November 1859), Ida (b. about 1861), Richard J. (b. 1863), William (b. about 1865), Linerva (b. about 1867), Fannie K. (b. 1872), Joseph M. (b. September 1876), John (b. about 1878), and Sanford (b. about 1879).

Sophronia Hancock

Sophronia Hancock (b. 5 February 1835-6), a daughter of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Thomas J. Martin (b. 7 April 1831, Ky., d. 30 April 1859, Henry County). In 1860, she was 24 and living in her father's household with Thomas, 6 (b. about 1854, Ky.), Millard F., 5 (b. about 1855, Ky.), Luella J., 2 (b. about 1858, Ky.), and William H. Martin, 24 (b. about 1836, Ky.)¹⁰ She remained in her father's household in 1870, with Thomas, 16; Jesse, 10; and Lewalla, 7.

William Hancock

William Hancock (b. 1 October 1836, Henry County, d. 8 June 1917, Sulphur, Henry County)¹¹, a son of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Mary E. ____ about 1865. Wil-



Robert Asa Hancock (1842-1914) as a Union officer during the Civil War. Over the course of his career, Hancock was also warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary and "Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth District of Kentucky."

liam was a farmer. The family lived near Campbellsburg in 1880 and near Sulphur in 1900. The couple's children included Allie (b. about 1868, Ky.), Lizzie (b. about 1871, Ky.), and Forest D. (b. about 1874, Ky.), and Curtis.¹²

Jesse C. Hancock

Jesse C. Hancock (b. 5 March 1839, near New Castle, Henry County, d. 23 August 1903, Trimble County), a son of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Kate Yager, a daughter of Dr. Sanford C. Yager, in March 1865. Hancock was a medical doctor, having studied under his father in law in Sligo, and at Miami Medical College. He practiced as early as 1863 at Harmony, in Owen County, before moving to a 200-acre farm near Bedford in Owen County in 1866. In 1887, he was

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*

president of the Trimble County Board of Health. The couple had six children, Claude, Ernest, Wilbur, Victor, Kate, and Virgie.¹³

Richard G. Hancock

Richard G. Hancock (b. 1 October 1840, d. 21 May 1880, Henry County), a son of Thomas Bartlett and Lucy Coombs, appeared in the 1870 census living with his parents near Cambellsburg. He was buried in the Hancock family cemetery near Sulphur, in Henry County.

Robert Asa Hancock

Robert Asa Hancock (b. 3 January 1842, Henry County, d. 1 February 1914, Oldham County)¹⁴, a son of Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married Martha Ann "Mattie" Webb (b. 11 November 1843, Trimble County, d. 6 February 1922, Louisville), a daughter of William Bryant Webb and Mary Ann Gilmore, on 5 December 1865 in Trimble County. The couple's children were: Unnamed Infant (b. Ky.), Arthur V. (b. 26 September 1870, Henry County, d. 28 August 1873, Henry County) and Elmer Hendricks (b. 16 August 1874, Brownsboro, Oldham County, d. 16 January 1964, Shively, Jefferson County).

Thomas H. Hancock

Thomas H. Hancock (b. July 1844, Henry County), a son of Thomas Bartlett and Lucy Coombs, married Ella/Ellen C. Banta (b. November 1854, Ky.) about 1872. The couple's four children included Lillian (b. February 1886, Ky.)

Hancock donated land for a railroad depot at the village of Sulphur, about 6.5 miles northwest of New Castle, in 1867, spurring economic growth. When a post office was established there as "Sulphur Fork" on August 24, 1869, Hancock became the first postmaster.¹⁵

As a 26-year-old Hancock was a U.S. Store Keeper living in the "Bethlehem Precinct, Subdivision 63" of Henry County, in the household of Marcellus Scruggs.

By 1900, he was 55 and a farmer living in Christiansburg, Shelby County.

Nancy Hancock Walker

Nancy Hancock (b. 16 April 1847, Ky., d. 17 January 1904, Henry County), a daughter of

Thomas Bartlett Hancock and Lucy Coombs, married William Walker. The couple's children included Morris, who lived in Henry County; Asa, who lived in Hopkins County; and Jim, who lived in Birmingham, Ala. She was buried in the Hancock Cemetery near Sulphur.¹⁶

Jessie L. Martin

"Mrs. Jesse Smith, of Sulphur, Henry County, Co., Ky.," as identified by Robert Asa Hancock in his deposition, was Jessie L. Martin, a daughter of Sophronia Hancock and Thomas J. Martin. She married Ballard Sims Smith Jr. (b. 6 February 1853, Henry County, d. 5 July 1920, Jefferson County), a son of Ballard Sims Smith Sr. and Julia Shrader about 1874, and the couple had at least one child, Gertrude (b. 27 September 1875, Ky.). Jesse L. Martin Smith died of myocarditis on 24 July 1937 in Sulphur, Henry County.¹⁷

Endnotes

¹ Jessie Smith was Jessie L. (Martin) Smith, daughter of his sister Sophronia Hancock and Thomas J. Martin. Jessie married Ballard S. Smith.

² Simon Hancock was a descendant of several people with royal lineages. His great-great-grandfather Thomas Ligon (b. about 1623, d. about 1675) "of Madresfield Court, County Worcestershire, England," was a descendant of King Edward I of England. Ligon came to Virginia in the 1640s and married by 1649, Mary Harris, the daughter of Thomas Harris and Adria Hoare. Thomas Ligon was a member of the House of Burgesses for Henrico County in 1656, and was a lieutenant colonel of the militia and county surveyor until his death. Another ancestor was Thomas Harris, who had sailed from England aboard the *Prosperous* shortly before 25 March 1611 (when the year 1611 began) and arrived in Jamestown in May 1611. Harris owned 700 acres of land which included the "Longfield" estate (later known as Curles Neck Farm). He served as a burgess for the "Neck of the Land" in 1624, for Henrico in 1640 and 1647-48. He was appointed in August 1626 as one of the "Commissioners for the Upper Parts," which included Henrico, and in December 1640 was commander of Henrico County. See John Frederick Dorman, *Adv. of Purse & Person* (4th ed., 2005), Volume 2, pages 264 and 289. See also Douglas Richardson, *Plantagenet Ancestry* (2004), p. 450.

³ For information about the Loudoun County Resolution of 1774, see "Resolutions of Loudoun County [Virginia]," *William & Mary College Quarterly*, Series 1, Book 12, pages 231-36. For information about the Mason family, see www.gunstonhall.org. For information about Mary Smith Hancock, see Henry G. Taliaferro, "Thomas Smith of Fairfax County, Virginia," *The Virginia Genealogist*, Volume 40, Number 1

Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*

(January-March 1996).

⁴Thomas Bartlett Hancock's headstone in the Hancock Cemetery in Henry County gives his age at his 1879 death as 79 years, 10 months, 9 days. The Hancock Cemetery is located on the north side of Kentucky highway 157, north of the Interstate 71 overpass. It is near the road at the top of the hill going down to Sulphur and lies hidden within some trees between address 6918 and 6976.

⁵U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 18 July 1860, p. 13/235, Cambellsburgh post office, subdivision number 2, by Thomas Pearce Jr.

⁶W.H. Perrin, J.H. Battle, and G.C. Kniffin, *Kentucky: A History of the State* (Louisville, Ky., and Chicago: F.A. Battey and Company, 1887; Reprint Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), pages 796. See also Henry County Deed Book 38, p. 355. Shortly before his death, Thomas Bartlett Hancock's children acquired interest in two tracts of land, one containing 140 acres and the other 75 acres. The deed was dated 1 July 1879. T.B. Hancock and R.L. Ricketts "late Sheriff of Henry County" conveyed the land to Martha King, wife of Robert King; Joel H. Hancock; Sophronia Martin; William Hancock; Jesse C. Hancock; Richard G. Hancock, Robert A. Hancock; Thomas H. Hancock; and Nancy Walker, wife of William Walker.

⁷Thomas Bartlett Hancock's children were also named in the 12 April 1880 partitioning of his property: Wm. Hancock, J.C. Hancock, Sophia Martin, RE(G) Hancock, T.H. Hancock, Martha C. King (wife of R.C. King), Joel H. Hancock, Nancy Walker, and R.A. Hancock.

⁸U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 19 July 1870, p. 20, Cambellsburgh post office, District of Campbellburgh, by R.M. Buckley(?).

⁹Martha and Robert were buried in the King Cemetery, in the Locust community of Carroll County.

¹⁰U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 18 July 1860, p. 13/235, Cambellsburgh post office, subdivision number 2, by Thomas Pearce Jr.

¹¹Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1917) 16,911. Hancock died of "cardiac asthma." The informant was "F.D. Hancock, M.D." of Sulphur. Hancock was buried in Sulphur on 10 June 1917. The Hancock Bible record had William's birth year as 1837, which was later changed to 1838. Robert Asa Hancock's affidavit gave the year as 1837.

¹²Will of William Hancock, Henry County Will Book 17, p. 140.

¹³W.H. Perrin, J.H. Battle, and G.C. Kniffin, *Kentucky: A History of the State* (Louisville, Ky., and Chicago: F.A. Battey and Company, 1887; Reprint Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), pages 796-97.

¹⁴Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1914) 5,316. Hancock died of "Apoplexy," aggravated by hemiplegia in Pewee Valley. The informant was "Mr. Hancock" of Pleasureville. Hancock was buried in Campbellsburg on 3 January 1914.

¹⁵Robert M. Rennick, *Kentucky Place Names* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984), p. 287.

¹⁶See *Henry County Local*, 15 January 1904. The obituary is posted at <http://www.usgw.org/ky/henry/obits1.htm>.

¹⁷Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1937) 18,520. The informant was "Mrs. Sleadd" of Simpsonville. See also Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1920) 18,445. The informant was E.H. (Elmer Hendricks) Hancock, who lived at No. 32, Weissinger-Gaulbert Apartments.

The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

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after killing an Indian in hand-to-hand combat, he crawled under a small oak tree, stayed there until nightfall when his wife who had come looking for him found him on the battlefield. Colonel Logan and his command found Morgan and his wife and returned them to their home. *The Western Monthly Magazine, and Literary Journal*, May 1833, p. 1.

³⁸Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

³⁹Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

⁴⁰Also listed as Short.

⁴¹Also listed as Sumner.

⁴²Stephen Twyman.

⁴³Also listed as Yocum. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

The Shaker Experience of Mattie (Sanford) Bryant Bland

By Roger H. Futrell

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Martha W. "Mattie" Sanford grew up near Allensville in southern Todd County, close to the Logan County line.¹ Mattie married William "Baker" Bryant on December 24, 1868.² He died of heat stroke while harvesting wheat in May 1877.³

After Bryant's death, Mattie and her four children—Dona, William Walton, Mary Alice, and James Andrew "Jim"—struggled to get by.⁴ Like many others in similar circumstances, they entered a Shaker community, formally known as the United Society of Believers. The Bryants joined the Shakers' South Union settlement on June 24 1882,⁵ and were residents of what was called the East Family on 1 January 1883.⁶ Mattie and the children remained with the Shakers through December 17, 1887,⁷ when they left South Union and returned to the world.

Mattie's eldest son, William Walton Bryant, moved from the Allensville community to Canton, in Trigg County, in the early 1890s,⁸ and Mattie and her younger son Jim soon joined him there.⁹

Second Marriage

Mrs. Mattie Bryant married Trigg County widower Alexander Bland on 4 October 1893.¹⁰ They had twin boys, Alexander "Alex," and James Andrew Bland, in March 1895.¹¹ Alexander Bland Sr. died seven months later, in October 1895.¹² Shortly after his burial, Mattie and her son, Jim Bryant, took the infant Bland twins and moved back to Todd County,¹³ leaving Mr. Bland's older children orphaned.¹⁴ She and the boys settled south of Allensville near her married daughters, Dona Overby and Mary Rust.¹⁵ They lived in a tenant house on the Jim Overby farm for many years.¹⁶ But in 1920, Mattie and Andrew were living in nearby Logan County.¹⁷

Ironically, Mattie named two of her sons James Andrew: James Andrew *Bryant* and James Andrew Bland.¹⁸

Shaker Craftswoman

Mrs. Mattie (Sanford) Bryant Bland was known throughout the area for making Shaker-style crafts; her handiwork included needlework and an assortment of wooden doodads.¹⁹ Mattie died in Todd County of complications from tuberculosis on 1 February 1929.²⁰ She was buried in the Overby family burying ground near Allensville.²¹ The graveyard is currently on what is known as the James Rufus Bland farm at 4111 State Line Road, Allensville.²²

Mattie (Sanford) Bryant's children who lived at South Union

1.) Dona Bryant, who married James E. Overby (1869-1910).²³ Dona and Jim Overby farmed just south of Allensville.²⁴ They were buried in a family graveyard on their property.²⁵ Today, the Overby home place is known as the James Rufus Bland farm and is located at 4111 State Line Road, Allensville, 42204.²⁶

2.) William Walton Bryant, who married Bertie Lee Allen (1875-1953).²⁷ Bryant moved from Todd County to Trigg County in the early 1890s.²⁸ He lived next door to his stepfather's older brother, James Scott Bland, in 1900.²⁹ He farmed in Trigg County's Linton community, managed the County Poor Farm for a time, and attended Sinking Springs Baptist Church.³⁰ Bryant's great niece, Betsy Overby Perkins, said he only returned to Todd County one time after he left, and that was when his mother died in 1929.³¹ Bryant was buried in the Will Ricks graveyard near Linton.³² When the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers impounded Lake Barkley in 1965, Bryant's grave was moved to the Little River Relocation Cemetery near Cadiz.³³

3.) Mary Alice Bryant, who married James Russell

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Rust (1876-1942).³⁴ When the Todd County School Census for the “*Rust, Possum College*” district was taken in 1895, eighteen-year-old Mary Alice Bryant was living with the James Overby family.³⁵ Mary Alice Bryant married J.R. Rust. They farmed in the Licksillet community, near Olmstead, in southwest Logan County;³⁶ both were buried in the Boyd-Rust Cemetery at Licksillet.³⁷

4.) James Andrew “Jim” Bryant, who married Mintie Lee Downs (1879-1964).³⁸ Primary records consistently list James A. “Jim” Bryant’s year-of-birth between 1879 and 1881. He returned to Todd County with his mother after his stepfather, Alexander Bland, died in 1895.³⁹ He and Mattie Bland were living in Todd County when the 1900 U.S. Census was taken,⁴⁰ but he was back in Trigg County by 1910,⁴¹ where he farmed and was active in Canton’s Masonic Lodge No. 242.⁴² Bryant was buried in East End Cemetery at Cadiz.⁴³

Endnotes

¹ Interview with James Andrew Bland (Allensville, KY 42204), by Roger H. Futrell, 1963. Mattie (Sanford) Bland photograph. Original photo taken c. 1920, at Licksillet, Logan County, Kentucky. Picture is 4” x 6”, black and white. Notes held by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). The original photo was owned in 1980 by Mattie son, James Andrew Bland, of Allensville. The image was copied in 1978 by Andrew Bland’s great-niece, Betsy (Overby) Perkins, of Bowling Green. Perkins gave a copy to the author in 1994. Owned 2007 by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). Littleton Samford [*sic*] household, 1850 U.S. census, Todd County, Kentucky, population schedule, district 2, page 287, dwelling 564, family 564; National Archives micropublication M432, roll 219. Mattie Bland, death certificate no. 022-10640-30, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Vital Statistics, Frankfort. William B. Bryan [*sic*] household, 1870 U.S. census, Todd County, Kentucky, population schedule, Allensville post office, page 311-B, dwelling 11, family 11; National Archives micropublication M593, roll 500.

² Robertson County Marriage Bond, County Archives, Springfield, Tenn.

³ Letter from Betsy (Overby) Perkins (Mrs. Eldon R. Perkins; 707 East 10th. Avenue; Bowling Green, KY 42101) to Roger H. Futrell, 3 February 1994; held in 2007 by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). The late Mrs. Perkins was great-granddaughter to Mattie Bland.

⁴ Interview, James Andrew Bland, 1963.

⁵ Letter, Betsy (Overby) Perkins to Roger H. Futrell, 3 February 1994.

⁶ Tommy Hines, A South Union Shaker census indexes, E-mail message (Shaker Museum; South Union, KY 42283) to writer, 12 January 2007.

⁷ Letter, Betsy (Overby) Perkins to Roger H. Futrell, 3 February 1994.

⁸ Interview, James Andrew Bland, 1963.

⁹ Interview with Bradley Bland (Mayfield, KY 42066), by Roger H. Futrell, 1962. Notes held by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). Mr. Bland is now deceased.

¹⁰ Trigg County Marriage Register, 1888-1914, 10:94; microfilm 7002860; Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Frankfort.

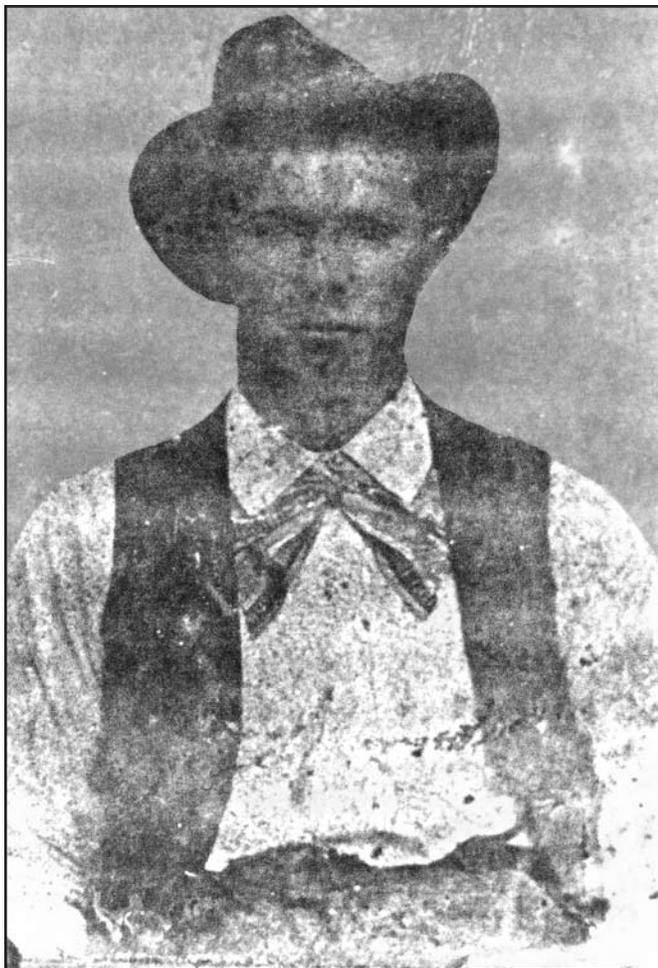
¹¹ Interview, James Andrew Bland, 1963.

¹² Interview with Talmadge (Bland) Futrell (Mrs. Ira Futrell, Hopkinsville, KY 42240), by Roger H. Futrell, 1957. Notes



Mrs. Mattie (Sanford) Bryant Bland posed about 1920 with some of the Shaker-style crafts she learned to make while living at the society’s South Union, Ky., settlement. The stand beside her was made from a cheese hoop and broom sticks; both it and the needlework were based on Shaker design. The photograph was shot in the side yard of the J.R. Rust place near Licksillet in Logan County, and originally belonged to Mattie’s son, Andrew Bland, of Allensville.

The Shaker Experience of Mattie (Sanford) Bryant Bland, *continued*



Martha Sanford married William Baker Bryant (b. 25 October 1847, d. 10 May 1877), a son of John Bryant and Agness Rust, on Christmas Eve, 1868. He died of heatstroke while harvesting wheat. The couple had four children. The image was taken from an old tintype.

held by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). Mrs. Futrell is now deceased.

¹³ Interview with Bradley Bland, 1962.

¹⁴ Interview with Talmadge (Bland) Futrell, 1957.

¹⁵ Mattie Bland household, 1910 U.S. census, Todd County, Kentucky, population schedule, Hadensville precinct, enumeration district [ED] 109, supervisor=s district [SD] 3, sheet 1, dwelling 7, family 7; National Archives micropublication T624, roll 504.

¹⁶ Interview with Donie (Pippin) Bland (Mrs. Alexander Bland, Allensville, KY 42204), by Roger H. Futrell, 1962. Notes held by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). Mrs. Bland is now deceased.

¹⁷ Andy [*sic*] Bland household, 1920 U.S. census, Logan County, Kentucky, population schedule, Olmstead District No. 3, enumeration district [ED] 62, supervisor=s district [SD] 3, Sheet 1-B, dwelling 19, family 20; National Archives micropublication T625, roll 588.

¹⁸ Interview, James Andrew Bland, 1963.

¹⁹ Interview, Donie (Pippin) Bland, 1962.

²⁰ Mattie Bland, Kentucky state death certificate 022-10640-30.

²¹ *bid.*

²² Interview, Donie (Pippin) Bland, 1962.

²³ Letter from Betsy (Overby) Perkins (Mrs. Eldon R. Perkins; 707 East 10th. Avenue; Bowling Green, KY 42101) to Roger H. Futrell, 9 February 1994; held in 2007 by Futrell (1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601). The late Mrs. Perkins was great-granddaughter to Mattie Bland.

²⁴ James E. Overby household, 1910 U.S. census, Todd County, Kentucky, population schedule, Hadensville precinct, enumeration district [ED] 109, supervisor=s district [SD] 3, sheet 1, dwelling 8, family 8; National Archives micropublication T624, roll 504.

²⁵ Letter, Betsy (Overby) Perkins to Roger H. Futrell, 9 February 1994.

³⁰ Interview, Donie (Pippin) Bland, 1962.

³¹ William W. Bryant, death certificate no. 044-21605-53, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Vital Statistics, Frankfort.

³² Interview, James Andrew Bland, 1963.

³³ William W. Bryant household, 1900 U.S. census, Trigg County, Kentucky, population schedule, Magisterial district 2, enumeration district [ED] 79, supervisor=s district [SD] 1, sheet 13, dwelling 230, family 233; National Archives micropublication T623, roll 552.

³⁴ W.W. Bryant obituary, *The Cadiz Record*, Cadiz, Kentucky, 22 October 1953, page 1, column 2.

³⁵ Letter, Betsy (Overby) Perkins to Roger H. Futrell, 9 February 1994.

³⁶ Eurie Pearl Wilford Neel, *The statistical handbook of Trigg County, Kentucky, the gateway to the Jackson Purchase in Kentucky and Tennessee* (Nashville: Rich Printing Company, 1961), 440 (Will Ricks Cemetery).

³⁷ Judith Ann Maupin, *Trigg County Cemeteries, 1811-1879* (Murray, Kentucky: Privately printed, 1980), 302 (Little River Relocation Cemetery).

³⁸ Mary A. Rust, death certificate no. 042-20709-42, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Vital Statistics, Frankfort.

³⁹ Todd County, Kentucky school census, (1895); district no. 31, (Rust, Possum College); B-45-G-1-A-F, Box 1, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Frankfort.

⁴⁰ James R. Rust household, 1920 U.S. census, Logan County, Kentucky, population schedule, Olmstead district #3, enumeration district [ED] 61, supervisor=s district [SD] 3, sheet 1-B, dwelling 19, family 19; National Archives micropublication T625, roll 588.

⁴¹ Logan County Genealogical Society, INC, Logan County, Kentucky Cemeteries (Russellville, Kentucky: Privately printed, 2000), 385 (Rust-Boyd Cemetery).

⁴² James A. Bryant, death certificate no. 049-24241-64, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Vital Statistics, Frankfort.

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⁴³. Interview, Talmadge (Bland) Futrell, 1957.

⁴⁴. Mattie Bland household, 1900 U.S. census, Todd County, Kentucky, population schedule, Magisterial district 6, enumeration district [ED] 91, supervisor=s district [SD] 3, sheet 20, dwelling 388, family 388; National Archives micropublication T623, roll 552.

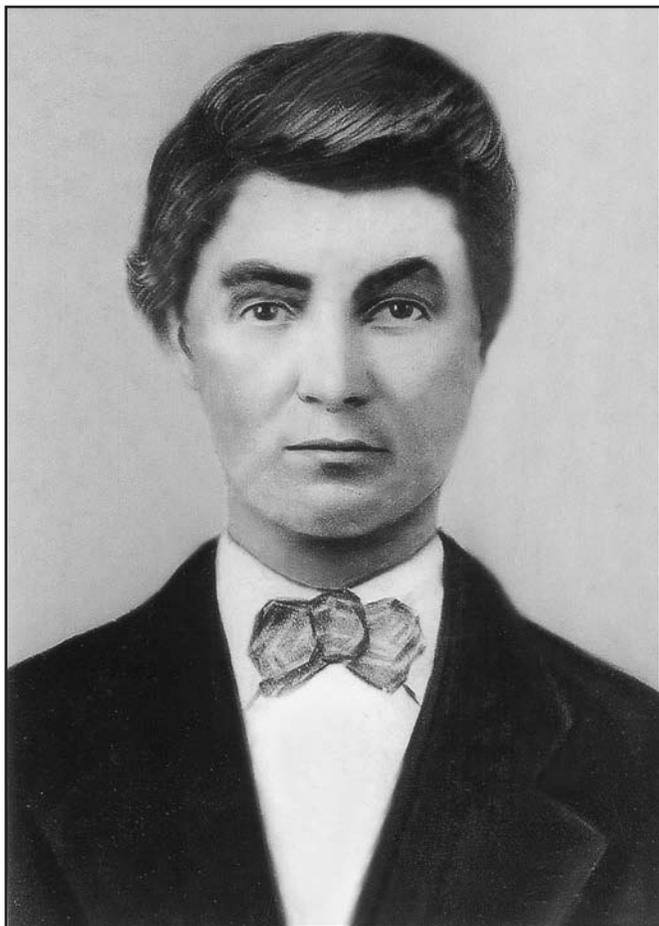
⁴⁵. James A. Bryant household, 1910 U.S. Census, Trigg County, Kentucky, population schedule, Magisterial district 2, enumeration district [ED] 148, supervisor=s district [SD] 1, sheet 8-B, dwelling 152, family 154; National Archives micropublication T624, roll 501.

⁴⁶. James Andrew "Jim" Bryant obituary, *The Cadiz Record*, Cadiz, 29 October 1964, page 1, column 5.

⁴⁷. Judith Ann Maupin, *Trigg County Cemeteries, 1811-1879* (Murray, Kentucky: Privately printed, 1980), 82 (East End Cemetery).

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Alexander Bland (1850-1895) of Trigg County, second husband of Mattie (Sanford) Bryant Bland, was also the father of her twin boys, Alexander "Alex" and James Andrew, born on 4 October 1893.

Bland, Donie (Pippin), interview. 1962, at Allensville, KY 42204. Notes held by interviewer, Roger H. Futrell; 1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.

Bland, James Andrew, interview. 1962, at Allensville, KY 42204. Notes held by interviewer, Roger H. Futrell; 1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.

Bland, Mattie Sanford. Photograph. c.1920, Lickskillet, Logan County, Kentucky. Copy owned 2007 by Roger H. Futrell, 1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.

The Cadiz Record. Cadiz, Kentucky, 22 October 1953.

_____. Cadiz, Kentucky, 29 October 1964.

Futrell, Talmadge (Bland), interview. 1957, at Hopkinsville, KY 42240. Notes held by interviewer, Roger H. Futrell; 1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.

Hines, Tommy. A South Union Shaker census indexes.@ E-mail message: Shaker Museum; South Union, Kentucky 42283. 12 January 2007.

Hurley, Bertha Lee (Bland), interview. 1967, at Mayfield, KY 42066. Notes held by interviewer, Roger H. Futrell; 1116 Aderly Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.

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- Tennessee, Robertson County. County Archives, Springfield, Tennessee. Marriage Bonds.
- Trigg County, Kentucky. Marriage Register, 1888-1914. Microfilm 7002860. Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Frankfort.

William Miller of Henry County

By Marguerite Miller

Part One

William Miller was born about 1788 in what he always said was Kentucky.

Of course Kentucky was not a state in 1788—if that was his true birth date.

Miller was living in Henry County in 1840. In 1850, according to the census, he was 57 years old, born in Kentucky, and a farmer. In 1860, he was listed as 72, born in Kentucky, and a farmer, living in Cain Township, Hillsborough Post Office, in Fountain County, Indiana.

By the time of the 1870 Census, Miller was back in Henry County. He was listed as 82 and living with Joshua Miller, 44, his wife Margaret, and Joshua's sister Polly, 48. Joshua is believed to be a nephew of William Miller, yet unproved. In 1880, Miller was 92 and living with his daughter and son-in-law Samuel and Rachel Kelly.

Now to make things a bit more confusing, let's look at the records of Miller's death. His tombstone reads that he died in April 1884 at the age of 102.

But let's look at the obituary in the *Carrollton Democrat*, June 27, 1885, Page 5, Column 4: Neighboring Counties: Henry County:

“Wm Miller, the oldest inhabitant of Henry County, died near Lockport last Sunday. He enlisted in the army in 1814, being at the time a married man with one child. He was buried on the farm where he had been living for 71 years.”

Now surely it did not take over a year to get this obituary in the newspaper! So it depends on how you do the math here.

Based on the ages listed on census records, Miller could have been born anytime from 1782 to 1793. Now I wonder when or who had the stone made. The stone matches that of his daughter, Rachael Kelly, who died in 1893. Both stones even have the same verse.

I believe that both stones were placed at the same time and it may be that Miller's true death month and year were simply forgotten by that time. His tombstone is located on what is known as the Miller grave yard. There was a deed made on 5 April

1894 from H.S. Adams and Margaret Adams of the first part and the Miller heirs and their relatives & friends:

Witnesseth, that the said party of the first part, in consideration of Five Dollars cash in hand paid the receipt of which is truly acknowledged. “A certain track of land in Henry County, KY on the North side of H.S. Adams farm adjoining the land



Nancy Ann Miller (b. 1863), a daughter of Henry Miller and Nancy Ann Deskins, who married John Nicholas Miller. (Courtesy C.R. Sevier)

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

of Wm. Roberts. The said land is to be used as a burying ground for the neighborhood. There is one quarter of an acre of said ground.”¹

On his military pension records, dated June 10, 1850, Miller mentioned that he was 65 year old, and that his discharge papers were destroyed in the burning of his house.

So now we know that the Miller home had burned sometime before June 1850. Miller served in Captain Ziba Hott’s unit in a Kentucky regiment of volunteers commanded by Col. Gray during the War of 1812. He participated in the battle of New Orleans on the January 8, 1815. He was drafted at Port Williams on the 15th of June 1814 for the term of six months.

He was discharged at Nashville, Tenn., May 15, 1815. On June 19, 1882, he personally appeared before the clerk of Henry County and stated:

“When I made my application for pension I was under the impression that I was about 90 years old. But since I learned that in 1855 when I made application for a Land Warrant I then stated I was seventy-six. I am certain that I am now one hundred and three years old. I am certain of this because I know my memory in 1855 was much better than it is now.” William could not write because he signed with an X. William had two Survey Certificates 34747 and 25632. These land warrants could only be used in some other states beside Kentucky. This may have been the reason William and his wife, Lydia and several of their married children went to Fountain County, Indiana in 1858. We knew that they left Kentucky in the year 1858 and for some reason William came back before 1870. His wife remained in Fountain County with daughter and son-in-law Nicholas and Caroline Cline. In 1882 on his military claim for service, William was listed as bring 5 feet 9 inches tall and had black eyes, black hair and dark complexion. This would mean that at his ripe old age he still had black hair, not gray hair as we might expect for someone in their 90’s to 100 years of age. Also in his military Declaration for Pension he state that he married Lydia Razor in Vevay, Indiana. This would have to be in or about 1812 or 1813. To this date no marriage record has been located for this marriage. He was always listed on the census as a farmer. On March 9, 1878, he stated on his military pension record that he lived in Lockport, Henry Co. KY, where he has lived most of his life.²

Miller married Lydia Razor/Razior³ about 1813. She was born about 1786 in Virginia.

Lydia received land in a deed dated 18 April 1836 from Edmond P. Thomas.⁴ It is unclear why she received this land, but it was for her and her children:

“This indenture made this 18th Day of April 1836 between Edmond P. Thomas of the first part and John Adams trustee of Lydia Miller wife of William, Betsy Miller, Abram Miller, Caleb Miller, Rachel Miller, Henry Miller, Adaline Miller, Caroline Miller, James William Miller, Emeline Miller, children of Lydia Miller of Henry County Kentucky of the other part wittiness’ that the said Edmond P. Thomas for and in consideration of the some of seventy five dollars to him paid by the said Lydia and children the benefit of which is as knowledge he has and by this presents does give grant sell and convey to the said John Adams interest for the sole use and behalf of said soldier and his children as aforesaid and her future in said a certain peace of Land containing about one hundred acres in the said county on the head Waters of Sulphur Creek and where as they now live bounded by the Lands of John W. Boone, David Adams as heirs said Adams purchase of Carr with the apprentice to have and to hold in trust as aforesaid to them and their heirs forever. This understanding not the purchase of said Land was for the sale



James Ellsworth Miller (b. 1861) and his wife Sallie Parker Babbitt (b. 1859) in a photo taken in 1937.

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

are and benefit of said Lidia and children and to be held as trust property accordingly and said John Adams accepts the trust for Testimony other of said Thomas and Adams have to set her hands and seal date above.”

Signed: Edmon P. Thomas and John Adams.

Henry County Court Clerk office 18 April 1836.

I Edmond P. Thomas clerk of the County Court for said County do Certify that this deed was on the day of the date here of acknowledged before me in my office by Edmond P. Thomas party there to be his act and deed—and on the 5 September 1836 the said deed was acknowledged by John Adams trustee to be his act & deed for the purpose therein mentioned whereupon the Same is recorded this 9th day of April 1838.

Edmond P. Thomas.

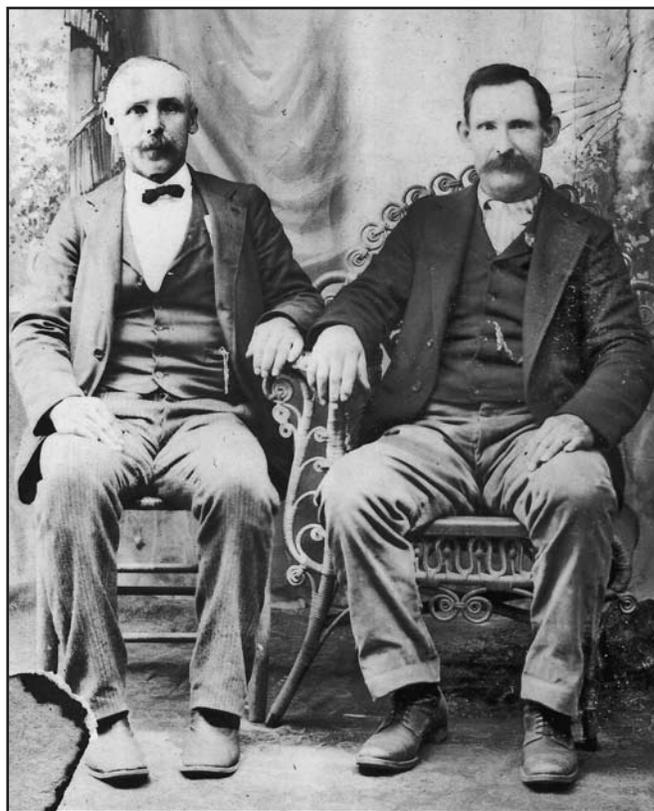
William Miller shows up on the Henry County tax list for the first time in 1837. His children were listed, and he had 100 acres. Then, in 1848, 1850 and 1851, William Miller Sr. was listed, but “Lidia” Miller was claiming the 100 acres. Also there was a William Miller Jr., who was the Millers’ son-in-law. In 1849, 1852, and 1853, William Miller Sr. was claiming the 100 acres. I could not find them in 1855. Some of the children were still listed, but not with the 100 acres. In 1854, Henry Miller had 100 acres.

Lydia was listed with William on the census in 1850 and 1860. Then in 1870 she was living with her daughter Caroline Cline. She must have died before 1880. However there are no death records available before 1882 in Fountain County, Ind. Lydia had been a mid-wife in Henry County, and attended a number of child births in the area.

Miller deeds

In Deed Book 27, page 62 on 11 April 1856:

“This indenture made and entered into this 11th day of August 1856 between Henry Miller of the first part and William & Adeline his wife, John Deakins & Polly his wife Amos Cleveland and Emiline his wife & Calab Miller & Mary his wife parties of the second part & Frank Hartman the third part wittneseth that for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars to the party of the first part part the sum of thirty dollars to each of the party of the second part in hand paid the receipt for which is hereby acknowledged hereby



William M. Miller (b. about 1821, Boone County, Ky.), a son of William J.M. Miller (b. 1852), in a photo taken with his son (at right) just before August 1872. (Courtesy C.R. Sevier)

the party of the first and second part have this day granted bargained and sold, and by these forever to grant bargain & sell unto the said Frank Hartman all their several interest in and to hundred acres of land deeded by E. P. Thomas some years ago to the mother of the parties of the first and second part lying on the head waters of Sulphur, the said Henry’s part his own share and from others purchased by him and the other selling their own share only in said land with the appendances forever to have and to hold unto the party of the third part and his heirs and assigns forever & the party of the first and second part do hereby covenant and agree warrant said title forever from the claims of themselves their heirs and assigns & from the claim or claims of all and every person or persons whatsoever In witness the party of the first and second part do hereby set their hands & seal this day and note above written.”

Signed by Henry Miller, William Miller, Adaline Miller John Deakins, Polly Deakins, Amos Cleveland, Emiline Cleveland, Mary Miller and Calab Miller. Feb. 27, 1857

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

Deed Book 27, page 22:

“This indenture made this 26th February 1857 between Lydia Miller wife of Will Miller of the first part- Will Johnson and his wife Betsy of the second part- Frank Hartman & Malane his wife of the third part and Henry S. Adams of the fourth part. Witnesseth that the parties of the first, second and third parts in consideration as follows, to-wit, for the sum of four hundred dollars paid the said Lydia Miller, the sum of one hundred dollars paid the said Johnston and wife, they have, and by them presents do sell and convey to said Adams the track of land containing one hundred acres on the road to Lockport and being the same deeded to the said Lydia and her children and her children by E. P. Thomas some years ago: with the appendences forever--- and the said Frank Hartman warrants and



This image is believed to be of William Miller (b. about 1788, d. April 1884), who “Aged 102 years.” It could, however, also be of Amos Miller (b. 20 November 1865, Henry County.)

defends to said Adams against all claims the shares in said land purchased of Miller’s heirs by him- and the said Johnston & wife warrants and defend their shares in said land against all claims-and the said Lydia warrants the said land during her life against all claims whatsoever. It is understood that Frank Hartman has purchased nine shares in said land, and that Johnston & wife own the other shares and that Lydia Miller has a life estate only in the whole tract. In testimony whereof the parties have set their hands & seal.”

Lydia Miller, Betsy Johnston, William Johnston, Frank Hartman, and Malane Hartman

State of Kentucky

Henry County, Feb 26, 1857

I, E. P. Thomas Clerk of Henry Co. Court do certify that this deed from Millers Heirs to Henry S. Adams was on this day produced to me in my office and a acknowledged by Lydia Miller, Will Johnston and Betsy Johnston, his wife, Frank Hartman and Malane Hartman his wife to be each of their act and deed, and recorded. E. P. Thomas Clerk.

Children

William and Lydia Miller’s children were:

1. Elizabeth (b. about 1813, d. after 1865) may have been from an earlier marriage of Lydia’s. To this date, only a marriage for a Elizabeth Stephen to William Johnson on October 16, 1828 in Shelby County, Ky., have been found and appears to be her. William Johnson was born in 1805 in Clinton, Ga., and died before April 1865. The couple had children: William (b. 1829), Obediah (b. 1833), Martha (b. 1838), Jonathan (b. 1840), Owen Robert (b. 1842), Elisha (b. 1844), Olive “Ollie” (b. 1847), and Mary Elizabeth (b. 1852). This Elizabeth and husband were listed on some deeds that relate to Lydia and her children, which all had to sign.⁵

2. Abraham Miller (b. 1814, Henry County) appeared in the 1850 census in Henry Cuntly and in 1860 in Fountain County, Ind. He died before 1880 in either Indiana or Illinois. In the 1860 Fountain County tax list, he had four swine at \$8, 50 bushels of corn at \$12, 16 bushels of potatoes at \$4, one barrel of pork at \$10, 12 pounds of lard at \$1, poultry worth \$3 and a household worth of \$40. Abraham married Lydia S. Razor, a daughter of John Razor and Mary Grable, on 8 September 1836 in Henry

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

County.⁶ She was born on 2 June 1817 in Henry County and died on 5 April 1895 in Bear Grove Township, Fayette County, Ill. The couple had the following children: Mary C. (b. 1837), Elizabeth (b. 1840), Caroline (b. 1843), William Howard (b. 1847), and Sarah C. (b. 1853), all of Henry County.

3. Caleb Miller (b. about 1819, Ky., d. before 1900), who married Mary Carr, a daughter of Joseph Carr and Sarah Bruce, on 23 January 1845 in Henry County. The couple had no children. Mary Carr Miller was listed on the 1900 census with an aunt, Mary Carr Ditto.

4. Rachael Miller (b. about 1820, Henry County, 19 January 1893), who married Samuel Kelly on 28 December 1837 in Henry County.⁷ He was born about 1816 and is believed to have died between 1895 and 1896.⁸ She was buried in the Miller Family Cemetery in Henry County. The couple had the following children: Lydia (b. 1838), Caleb (b. 1840), Julia (b. 1845), William Thomas (b. 1847), and John Samuel (b. 1850).

5. Henry Miller (b. about 1825, Henry County), who married three times. (I have only found two marriages.) The first marriage took place on 8 April 1858 in Henry County to Nancy Ann Deakins, a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Deakins. She was born about 1835. Henry married a third time to Mary Ann Harlow on 12 June 1869 in Owen County, Ky. She was born about 1837 in Henry Co. Henry had several children: Sarah Elizabeth (b. 1859), Susan M. (b. 1861), Nancy Ann (b. 1863), Lidia (b. 1866), William Henry "Bud" (b. 1868), and John (b. 1875).

6. Adeline Miller (b. January 1826, Henry County, d. 23 March 1912, Henry County) married William M. Miller on 16 April 1846 in Henry Co. She was listed in the 1850 census in Henry County and in 1860 in Fountain Co. Ind. She has not been found in the 1870 census. In 1880, she was living with her son John Nicholas and his wife Nancy Miller, a daughter of Henry Miller. Adeline was buried in Drennon Chapel, Franklinton, KY. Adeline's husband, William M. Miller, was born about 1821 in Boone Co.⁹ He was in Henry County in 1850 and

Fountain Co., Ind., in 1860. He died on 12 August 1872 in Henry County. He was found dead and, upon examination of the body, it was believed he was struck in the left temple by a westbound engine on the Louisville & Frankfort railroad. He also had bruises on his limbs and body. He was about 5 feet 8 inches high, with a dark complexion and had a sandy mustache, compactly built and of German decent.¹⁰ He is believed to have been buried in the Miller Cemetery or at Drennon Chapel, Franklinton. No stone has been found, nor any record to prove either of these locations. Adeline and William had the following children: Mary Elizabeth (b. 1847), Abraham (b. 1850), William J.M. (b. 1852), John Nicholas (b. 1854), George Henry (b. 1858), James Ellsworth (b. 1861), Susan M. (b. 1865), and Amos Allen (b. 1865). After William's death, Adeline married Jasper Babbitt (b. 22 July 1851, Franklin County, d. 13 February 1929, Central State Hospital, Lakeland, Jefferson County), a son of John Robert Parker Babbitt and Susan Hulett, on 28 July 1880 in Henry County.¹¹ Babbitt was buried in Eminence, Henry Co. KY¹²

7. Caroline Miller (b. 1828, Ky., d. 15 January 1892, Veedersburg, Ind.)¹³ married Nicholas Clines Jr. (b. between July 1803 and 1806, Shelby County, d. 22 June 1888, Kansas)¹⁴ on 7 September 1847 in Henry County.¹⁵ The couple lived in 1860, 1870, and 1880 in Fountain Co., Ind. They were in the Cain Township, Hillsborough Post Office. They arrived there in 1858. On the 1860 tax list they were listed as having two horses at \$65, 50 bushels of corn at \$12, one pocket watch at \$3, and a household valued at \$15. In 1864, they had two horses at \$60 and a household worth \$20. They had the following children: Thomas S. (b. 1848), James Owen (b. 1852), Sarah E. (b. 1855), David S. (b. 1858), Ditto N. (b. 1860), Josiah (b. 1865), Lilly R. (b. 1869).

8. James William Miller (b. 1831, Henry County) married Emiline Brown (b. about 1827, Ky.) on 20 January 1848 in Shelby County.¹⁶ In 1860, he was on the census and on the tax list in Cain Township, Fountain County, Ind. He had one horse at \$10, five bushels of wheat at \$5, 50 bushels of corn at

Continued on Page 86

Kentucky Historical Society

The Kentucky Historical Society, founded in 1836, has long been the state's storehouse of history. Today it is the home of the 167,000-square-foot Kentucky History Center in downtown Frankfort. The state-of-the-art facility, which opened in April 1999, is the centerpiece of a campus that offers numerous learning opportunities to students, historians, genealogists, and anyone else interested in Kentucky history.

Museums

The Kentucky Historical Society operates three unique sites in downtown Frankfort that tell the story of our state's history. At the Frankfort facilities and through the Society's outreach programs, the Kentucky story stirs the hearts of over a quarter-million people every year.



The Kentucky Military History Museum (left) houses a collection of artifacts from the state's martial past. It was built in 1850 as the state arsenal. Union and Confederate troops fought to control it during the Civil War. The Old State Capitol, (right) completed about 1830, is a gem of Greek Revival architecture. Designed by Gideon Shryock, it was the first state capitol of its type west of the Appalachian Mountains. It is today operated as a museum and is open for tours.



Kentucky History Center—Home to the Society, this building contains the state history museum, changing exhibit gallery, research library, gift shop, rental facility, and the Society's educational and publications programs.

Old State Capitol—Completed in 1830, this site is a national historic landmark. Its House and Senate chambers, graced by Kentucky paintings and sculpture, tell the story of state government in the commonwealth.

Kentucky Military History Museum—Two centuries of Kentucky's military heritage are traced through an extraordinary collection of weapons, uniforms, flags, and photographs. Housed in the 1850 Old State Arsenal, the museum operates in conjunction with the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs.

Kentucky Historical Society

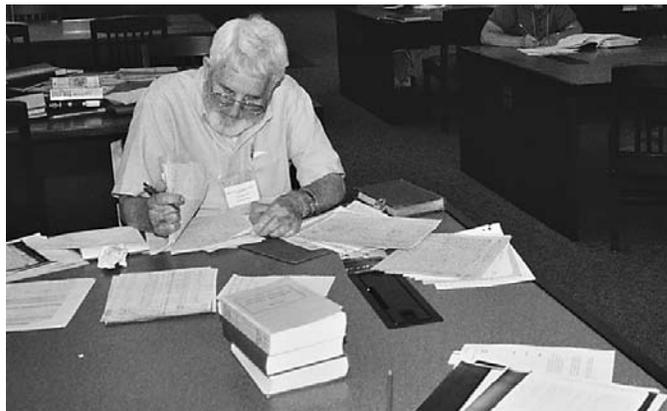
Library & Special Collections

Thousands of researchers blaze their own trail through the historic landscape each year with the assistance of the Society's research facilities. Here genealogists can trace an ancestor's path aided by family histories, census, church, and cemetery records, family Bibles, and land ownership and military service records.

In addition, the Society's Special Collections house hundreds of thousands of manuscripts, photographs, maps, rare books, oral histories, pioneer accounts, diaries, albums, personal recollections, and more—all helping researchers come face-to-face with Kentucky's distinctive heritage.

Publications

The Society publishes books and periodicals that meet the needs of genealogists, historians, and scholars alike. The publications program produces two quarterlies: *The Register*, a journal of scholarly research in Kentucky history, and *Kentucky Ancestors*, a genealogical magazine providing statewide coverage for family history researchers. The Society also publishes *The Chronicle*, a membership newsletter offering information on Society events, exhibits, and programs.



The Library and Special Collections facilities contain the stories of Kentuckians and their families, from the 1700s to the present. Researchers have access to hundreds of thousands of books, records, and photographs.

Education

Every year thousands of people travel to Frankfort from all across America for hands-on tours, interactive exhibits, touch carts, historic character reenactments, family workshops, theatrical presentations, symposia, and festivals that celebrate Kentucky's history. In addition, the education program offers Kentucky history curriculum materials to teachers for use in their classrooms. The Society's outreach programs help people from Ashland to Paducah discover Kentucky's unique past. These programs include the Kentucky Junior Historical Society, Museums To Go, and Historical Highway Markers. Grant and technical assistance activities sponsored by the Folklife, Local History, and Oral History programs give citizens the tools to document and present their own history.

Hours and Admission

Kentucky History Center

Museum	Tues-Sat (10-5)
Thomas D. Clark Library	Tues-Sat (8-4)
Special Collections	Tues-Fri (8-4)

Old State Capitol

Tues-Sat (10-5)

On-the-hour tours begin at the History Center, last tour starts at 4 p.m.

Kentucky Military History Museum

Tues-Sat (10-5)

Tickets will be sold at both the History Center and the Kentucky Military History Museum and will include admission for all three museums. No ticket required for genealogical research library and 1792 Store. Parking is FREE.

Ticket prices:

- **Kentucky Historical Society & Kentucky Junior Historical Society members FREE (must present membership card)**
- Active military and veteran discounts (must present service ID)
- Adults \$4
- Youth (ages 6-18) \$2
- Children 5 and under FREE
- School groups (\$2 per person, students and adults; school group scholarships are available)

***Second Sunday of every month FREE!**

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

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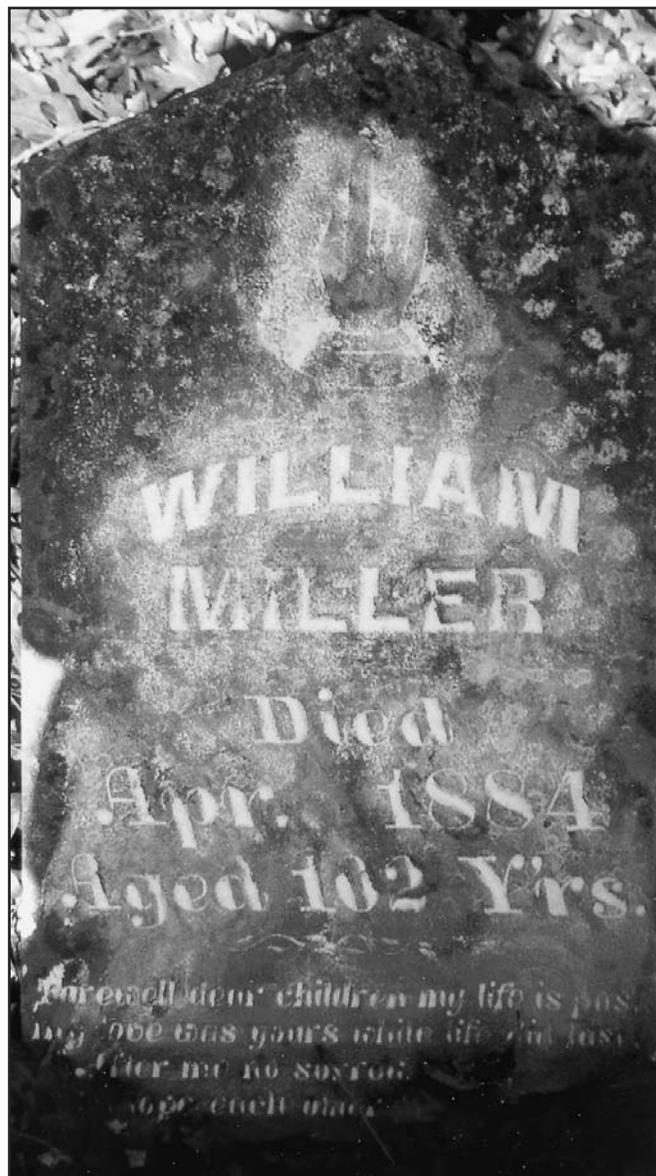
\$12, eight bushels of potatoes at \$2, 1 ½ barrels of pork at \$15, 20 pounds of lard at \$2, 400 pounds of tobacco at \$12, one clock or pocket watch at \$3, and a household worth \$10. James and Emiline had one known child, Eliza Ann (b. 1848, Ky.).

9. Emiline Miller (b. about 1833, Ky.) married Amos Cleveland (b. 1820, Clark County, Ind.) on 20 July 1847 in Henry County.¹⁷ In 1850 they were listed in district 1, Port Royal, Henry County and in 1860 they were in the Smithfield area of Henry County and very near to Samuel and Rachael Kelly. However, they were back in Port Royal by 1870. Death dates are unknown for either of them. They had the following children: Noah (b. 1848), Lucinda (b. 1850), Henry Owen (b. 1852), Lydia Ann (b. 1858), Margaret Ann (b. 1858), James W. (b. 1863), and Daniel Webster (b. 1866).

10. Mary “Polly” Miller (b. about 1837, Henry County) married John D. Deakins (b. about 1832), a son of Mathew Deakins and Polly Sally Kindle, on 21 May 1856 in Henry County. The couple moved in 1860 to Hillsborough Post Office, Fountain County, Ind. The family was living next to Abraham and Lydia Miller. They had only one known child: Nancy E. (b. 1858, Ind.).

Mystery

Another interesting and unexplained mystery is taken from the 1850 census in Henry County. A Polly Ann Kelly (b. about 1825) and her two children, John (b. 1845) and Frances (b. 1849) were living with William Miller and his family. On 15 June 1842 John Kelly married Polly Ann Green and Caleb Miller signed the bond.¹⁸ Does that make them related? No, it only is a clue. But why are they living with the Miller family? A very good question, but I can only speculate at this time. I believe that John Kelly Sr. married Elizabeth Miller, ward of William Brooks, on 3 January 1804 in Henry County.¹⁹ William Brooks was the guardian of Elizabeth Miller. I have never found any reference to a father for William or Elizabeth Miller. This could be Elizabeth Miller Kelly’s son’s wife and children living with William and his family. But what happened to them and



There is something of a mystery about William Miller’s gravestone because it says he died in April 1884 and his obituary appeared in the *Carrollton Democrat* on June 27, 1885.

where did they go? We don’t yet know what or how many children John Kelly Sr. and Elizabeth Miller may have had, or even if they had children. Could this Elizabeth Miller be a sister to William or somehow related? Will we ever know?

Now for another Elizabeth Miller (b. about 1813), who married James Razor on 19 January 1841 in Owen County. Caleb Miller signed the bond. Is there a relationship to these Miller and Razor families? She died sometime between 1864 and 17 August 1865, when James Razor married Susan Morris. Elizabeth Miller was James Razor’s second wife. He

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

first married Hettie Shoemaker on 16 August 1825 in Spencer County, Ky. James and Elizabeth had seven children. However, the big question here is who was the father of this Elizabeth Miller that was born about 1813? More questions than answers!

Miller Grave Yard in Henry County Kentucky, Now Known as the Miller/Galbreath Cemetery

On April 5, 1894, H.S. Adams and Margaret Adams deeded ¼ ac. of land for \$5, paid cash in hand for the Miller heirs and their relatives and friends: "A certain tract of land in Henry County, KY on the North Side of H.S. Adams farm and joining the land of Wm Roberts. The said land is to be used as a burying ground for the neighborhood. There is on quarter of an acre of said ground."

The cemetery remains, but is hard to find. There are believed to be some 50 burials, but only a few are known or proven. I am sure others of the Miller families are buried in this cemetery without stones. Information was taken from the old stones and two death certificates:

William Miller
April 1884, Age 102

Rachel Kelly
Wife of Samuel Kelly
Jan 10, 1893, Age 73 Years

Johnny W. Hartman
Son of C & M Hartman
Born July 26, 1886
Died May 2, 1887

Children of Mildred & Lillie Bell Lynch
Hattie Lynch
Born July 19, 1898
Died Jan 6, 1903

Infant Lynch
Born July 23, 1902
Died Dec 27, 1903
Jessie Galbreath
Born June 2, 1880
Died March 9, 1911

Ida Galbreath
Born March 13, 1889
Died March 13, 1909

Lillia Morris
Born March 16, 1873
Died Nov 9, 1894
Daughter of Julia A. Lynch



Rachel Kelly's gravestone, believed to have been placed in the Miller family burying ground in 1893, at the same time as that of her father, William Miller.

William Miller of Henry County, *continued*

Julia A Lynch
Born Oct 11, 1845
Died March 8, 1909

Anderson M Lynch
Born Oct 27, 1837
Died Oct 21, 1910

Fannie Arnold
Born Mar 1910
Died Mar 21, 1911²⁰

Endnotes

- ¹ Henry County, Ky., Deed Book 48, p. 303.
- ² Miller's pension application carried the number 34747.
- ³ The spelling of her name was on Caroline's death record in Fountain County, Ind.
- ⁴ Henry County, Ky., deed, Deed Book 18, p. 26, D. B. 24, p. 484, and D. B. 27, p. 62. This was land signed to Lydia Miller by Edmond P. Thomas.
- ⁵ Henry County, Ky., deed, Deed Book 18, p. 26, D. B. 24, p. 484, and D. B. 27, p. 62, this was land signed to Lydia Miller by Edmond P. Thomas

⁶ Henry County Historical Society, marriages listing John Razor as her father.

⁷ Henry County Historical Society listing William Miller as her father.

⁸ 1895/1896 Administrators Book of Henry County, Ky.

⁹ Marriages records of the children list is birth location as Boone County, Ky.

¹⁰ Coroner's inquest, found in an old box at the Henry County, Ky., Courthouse.

¹¹ In 1870 he was still living at home with his family in Frankfort.

¹² Kentucky death certificate number (1929) 6,439.

¹³ Veedersburg, Fountain Co., Ind., Health Department.

¹⁴ Date given by Sharron Standifer Ashton of Norman, Okla.

¹⁵ Henry County Historical Society, Marriage records listing William Miller as father.

¹⁶ Shelby County, Ky., marriages, however William Miller signed in Henry County.

¹⁷ Henry County Historical Society marriages, listing William Miller father.

¹⁸ Henry County Historical Society marriages in New Castle, Ky.

¹⁹ Book 1, Marriage Bonds 1800-1804, Henry County Historical Society.

²⁰ Kentucky death certificate number (1911) 6,606.

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee and His Family and Connections

Beginning in January 1927, the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society began publishing transcripts of the papers of Robert B. McAfee, which had been loaned by McAfee's great-granddaughter "Miss Georgie McAfee, of Lima, Ohio, but formerly of Danville...." Robert B. McAfee (b. 18 February 1784, Mercer County, d. 12 March 1849) was a soldier, farmer, attorney, and state legislator. After his father's 1795 murder, the young McAfee became the ward of his father's friend, John Breckinridge (U.S. senator 1801-05, U.S. attorney general, 1805-06) and his uncle, James McCoun. After attending Transylvania University, McAfee studied law under Breckinridge and was admitted to the bar in 1801. He served as a member of the state legislature until the War of 1812, when he volunteered for service, eventually being promoted to captain. After the war, McAfee resumed his legislative career. He later served as lieutenant governor (1824-28), U.S. charge d' affaires to the Republic of Colombia (1833-37), and president of the board of visitors of the U.S. Military Academy (West Point) (1842-45). Obvious errors in the text have been corrected and the punctuation changed to modern form. Notes appear within brackets, and 1927 notes within parentheses.

It is very often a matter of amusement as well as instruction to future generations to hear an authentic account of the origin and progress of any family or individual who has at any period filled a portion of our country's history.

With this view I have been induced to give my own biography as well as that of my family. That our posterity may know from whence they came and how they got along in this changeable world of ours, in which we have enjoyed much pleasure, many blessings from an All-wise Providence as well as some pain and adversity.

I have also been further led to write these sketches because the McAfee family were among the first settlers in Kentucky as well as the earliest pioneers of the West, who crossed the Alleghany Mountains from the State of Virginia to occupy the banks of that after celebrated stream called "Salt River."

When and how they accomplished this will be the object of this history as well as to trace the mysterious workings of Providence which led the family first from Scotland to Ireland and thence to America which has become their present home.

It is impossible to give more than a general outline of my family ancestors previous to their removal to North America as all I know about them has been derived from traditions which must in some measure be inaccurate as to dates.

According to my father's family register I was born on the 18th day of February 1784 on the banks of Salt River, near where my mill now stands, about fifty yards above a large cave spring and about four miles northwest of the town of Harrodsburg in an humble log cabin, and was rocked in a cradle made out of peeled hickory bark. I do not know that anything extraordinary took place at my birth except there was a deep snow on the ground and my mother's sister, Mrs. M. Magee, presided over my advent.

I was the eighth child of my mother and a second son by the name of Robert, a brother of the same name having died only twelve days previous, viz., on the 6th day of February 1784, and my father despaired of having any more sons was anxious for a man, it was immediately bestowed on me with the addition of the letter "B" for his friend John Breckinridge, afterward a celebrated lawyer in Kentucky and at his death in 1806 attorney general of the United States under President Jefferson.

My father's name was Robert McAfee, my mother's name was Anne McCoun before she was married.

Paternal

My father's name was Robert McAfee

My grandfather's name was James McAfee

My great grandfather—John McAfee

My great great grandfather—John McAfee

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*



KHS Collection

Robert B. McAfee—lieutenant governor of Kentucky from 1824 to 1828—heard the stories of his family's pioneering in what would become Mercer County and even interviewed relatives for genealogical information. The land his father settled beginning in 1778, near Salt River was his home throughout his life.

My mother's name was Anne McCoun
My grandmother's name Jane McMichael
My great grandmother—Elizabeth Montgomery

Maternal

My mother's name was Anne McCoun
My grandmother—Margaret Walker
My great Grandmother—Molly Campble
My grandfather—James McCoun
My great grandfather—James McCoun

Paternal Grandparents

James McAfee and Jane McMichael
Margaret Walker

Great-Grandparents

John McAfee and James McCoun
Mary Rogers (paternal)
Molly Campble (maternal)

My great grandfather married Elizabeth Mont-

gomery near Glasgow, Scotland. The father of my grandmother, Jane McMichael, was Malcolm McMichael. Their families originally lived in Scotland between Edenboro and Glasgow, and shortly after the restoration of Charles II, my great (great) grandfather, John McAfee, removed to the North of Ireland, settled in the county of Armah, where he became the owner of a small farm upon which his son, John, my great grandfather, afterwards built a stone house, which was occupied by the family for many years, some of their descendants living in that county to this day.

The McAfee family can only certainly be traced back to Scotland where they resided during the time of Cromwell, but after the restoration of Charles II part of them availing themselves of the liberal grants of land in the North of Ireland, emigrated to that country about the year 1672 and the persecutions of James II against the Presbyterian covenanters soon after drove many others after them including the Campbles, Montgomerys, McMichael and McCouns, who were more or less connected by marriages. This was in the year 1676.

When the revolution in England took place under King William and Mary in 1688, John McAfee, the patriarch of the family, and my great grandfather then a mere boy took part with King William and were soldiers in the battle of the Boyne in 1690 which was often the boast of my grandfather who was born in Armah County, Ireland on the 17th of October 1707. He was one of the ten children, viz., four sons, John, James, Malcolm and William, and six daughters, whose names I have not been able to procure. The family name, (reasoning from Analogy), is part Scotch and part Spanish, and originated in Scotland. The remote ancestors probably came from Normandy as the old stock were very large athletic men and women; many of them with the Spanish black eyes and hair, but this is all conjecture and is only drawn from the appearance of the different races of men connected with their family name.

My great grandfather James McCoun was of Danish extraction. The whole family feature the clear blue eyes and fair or auburn hair both men and women. He emigrated to Ireland, settled in Antrim County, adjoining Armah when quite young. He did not marry until he was pretty much of a bachelor—had a son, James, my grandfather, who was

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*

born in the year 1717. His father kept a small store and occasionally acted as an itinerant pedlar.

About the year 1735 my grandfather James McAfee, married Jane McMichael. His father dying soon after, in 1739, leaving a large family who had married off, the division of the patrimony being insufficient to satisfy all, he turned his attention to N. America as opening to him better prospects for himself and family.

In accordance with this determination he with his wife and three children, viz., John, James and Malcolm, then an infant, together with his aged mother who was willing to accompany his fortunes, embarked at Belfast, Ireland, in the Spring of [1739], and after a tedious passage landed at New Castle on the Delaware River on the 10th of June in that year, his son having died a few days before landing, which was a severe blow to his mother so soon after entering into a new and strange land.

His resources being limited, his wife and himself were compelled to follow weaving for their support, reserving his small stock of money to purchase land, which he accomplished that fall in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on Octorara creek where he purchased one hundred acres of land. [He] went to work to clear and cultivate it, here by industry and close economy he maintained his family in equal standing with his neighbors, who were very kind to them. Here his other children were born, viz., George, Margaret, Robert, Mary, William and Samuel, also one other daughter who died young.

Robert, my father, was born on the 10th of July 1745. My grandfather James McAfee was a large square-built man, raw boned Scotch Irishman, strong passions and great decision of character, dark hazel eyes, six feet in height. When aroused he was ready for any danger or enterprise.

My grandmother, Jane McMichael, was a woman about middle size, tall, mild and dignified, with a remarkably fine face and open prominent forehead, indicative of great goodness of heart [and] sensitive feelings, with dark gray eyes and black hair. Her mild, decided, and conciliatory looks could always silence the old man when in a passion.

Malcolm McMichael, the father of my grandmother, Jane, came to N. America some years after, in 1746, with four other daughters, viz., Anne, who afterward married James Campble; Mary, who mar-

ried Alexander Ferguson; Margaret, who married Samuel Ewing; and Elizabeth, who married first, a Mr. Keath and after his death, a Mr. Rogers. All which marriages took place after he came to Pennsylvania, where he settled near my grandfather and lived until he died leaving one son, Daniel McMichael, after he settled in Lancaster County. Another daughter, Sarah, married John Montgomery.

My grandfather, James McCoun, came to Virginia from Ireland when a young man, and landed at Norfolk in company with another young man by the name of William Adams in 1742. They engaged for some time working at the loom and farming until he procured money enough to buy himself a small package of goods. Then he went to peddling in the back and frontier counties which at that time did not extend farther than the lower counties on the Roanoke, but as the settlements extended, James McCoun and William Adams married and some years afterward settled on the Cataba in Bedford County.

These marriages took place in 1744, about two years after they arrived in Virginia, having met with Margaret and Mary Walker, who came to N. America about the same time with their brother Samuel Walker and landed at Charleston, South Carolina, with an uncle by the name of Thomas Clark, who had married their mother's sister.

Their family moved to Virginia, and settled on Roanoke, where James McCoun married Margaret, the eldest sister who was said to be a remarkably handsome near Irish girl who proved to (be) one of the most tidy housekeepers in their neighborhood and I have now in my possession a plain common rocking chair which she used to sit in previous to her death in March 1784.

James McCoun in his trading rambles occasionally visited Philadelphia to get his goods. Thomas Clark returned to Ireland and again came back to Charleston where he took sick and died before he reached his family. Samuel Walker, hearing of his death, went to see after his affairs and was never heard of afterward. It was supposed that he was murdered or that he had taken sick and died at or near Charleston.

My grandfather, James McCoun, was married April 1744 and had the following children: James, born March 11, 1745, who married Nancy Tilford; Ann, (my mother, born August 1st, 1746, married Robert McAfee Dec. 10th, 1766); Samuel, born Oc-

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*

tober 20th, 1748, died young and unmarried; Mary, born August 13th, 1750, married John Magee, moved to Monroe County, Missouri, and died in 1837; Susan, born April 7th, 1752, married James McCoun (no relation, from South Carolina); John, born March 28th, 1754, married Elizabeth Tilford (sister to James' wife); Jane, born May 1st, 1756, married James Woods and afterward Samuel Adams; Margaret, born April 15th, 1758, married to _____ Kerr; Elizabeth, born February 7th, 1761, married James Ledgerwood; and Joseph, born February 19th, 1763, taken prisoner by the Indians 1780 and burnt to a stake on head of Mad River in Ohio.

My grandfather, James McCoun, was a person of ordinary size, about five feet, nine or ten high, heavy made, and became fleshy before he died in 1800; grey eyes, heavy eyebrows and finely rounded forehead, a man of extraordinary strong mind with a great fund of cheerfulness and good humor, in which the Irish character predominated. He was an excellent farmer and (a) great economist, fond of his friends and much attached to his sons, especially the eldest. He could never get clear of his idea of primogeniture and was a Presbyterian of the Seceder denomination.

My grandmother was a remarkable woman, neat and spare made of the ordinary height, lively temperament, and beloved by all her children and friends.

My paternal grandfather's family and history may be summed in a short summary: his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Rogers, came with her son to N. America and lived with him on Octorara Creek in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, to the advanced age of 84 years, when she died. And of her children, John was killed at the ford of Rudy Creek near New River in Virginia about the year 1768.

James married Nancy Clark, the daughter of Thomas Clark, who is mentioned above as the uncle to my grandmother, and had children as follows:

Mary, who married David Woods and had three children. Woods died and she ... married Samuel Woods, his nephew, and had four more children, viz., Harry, Anne, Sally and Woodford;

John, who married Margaret Ewing, the daughter of Samuel Ewing, and granddaughter of Samuel Ewing, who married Margaret McMichael as already stated;

James, who died in his bed suddenly one night, a

young man, after they had removed to Kentucky in 1783;

Elizabeth, who married William Davenport; Nancy, who married ... (her cousin) Alexander Buchanan; George (who died unmarried in 1804); and Margaret, who married John McKamey.

Thomas Clark McAfee married Nancy Greathouse of Shelby County, Kentucky.

George and Susan (Curry) McAfee family

My uncle, George McAfee married Susan Curry, daughter of William Curry, and had children—viz.:

John, who lived to be an old bachelor, and died in South Carolina (trading);

James, who married Nancy McKamey (and), moved to Missouri in 1826;

Margaret, who married Abraham Irvine, now of Boyle County, head of Salt River;

George, who married Anne Hamilton;

Susan, who married Robert McKamey, brother of John above mentioned.

George and Margaret (McAfee) Buchanan family

My aunt Margaret McAfee married George Buchanan, a cousin to the father of the present Secretary of State of the U. States¹, James Buchanan. (George Buchanan) had issue as follows:

John, who married his cousin Margaret Guant and lived in Green County, Kentucky;

James, who married Rebecka Armstrong, lived near Salt River west of Salvisa and afterward moved to Clark County, Indiana;

Mary, who married Mr. Purviance and moved to Indiana;

Alexander, who married his cousin Nancy McAfee and settled on Salt River at his mill;

Margaret, who married William Ewing, and moved to Indiana;

Jane, who married Wm. McCampble and moved to Indiana;

Nancy, who married Thomas Gilkerson, moved to Indiana;

Anne, who married Joseph Woods, lived adjoining me in Mercer County;

Dorcas, who married Joseph Woods, cousin of the above named Woods, moved to Fleming County and lived on Licking River.

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*

Robert and Anne (McCoun) McAfee family

Robert McAfee, my father, married Anne McCoun, December 10th, 1766, and had issue as follows:

Margaret, who married Nathan Neeld;

Jane, who married Mathew Forsythe of South Carolina, descended from the same paternal stock of John Forsythe, former Secretary of State of the U.S.²;

Sally, who married James Curran;

Samuel, who married Mary Cardwell, daughter of John Cardwell;

Mary, who married Joseph Adams;

Robert, who died at six years of age, February 6th, 1784;

Anna, who married John R. Cardwell, brother of Mary Cardwell named above;

Robert B., who married Mary Cardwell, daughter of James Cardwell (cousin of the above);

John, who died unmarried at 20 years of age.

The foregoing are my father's family and marriages from whom they may know their ancestors in future, all of whom settled in Mercer County, Kentucky.

Mary McAfee Poulson Guant and her families

My Aunt Mary McAfee married John Poulson and had issue—one daughter, Margaret, who married William Ewing, one of the grandsons of Samuel Ewing the elder. Mr. Poulson having died, my aunt ... married Thomas Guant, and had issue—Margaret, Jane, John and Mary, the first of whom married her cousin John Buchanan. (Her son) John married _____ Darland, and (her daughter) Mary married Henry Eccles.

William and Rebecca (Curry) McAfee family

My uncle William McAfee married Rebecca Curry, sister of George McAfee's wife, and had issue—he was a captain and (was) killed by Indians on Clark's Campaign in 1780)³ as follows:

Anne, who married Elijah Craig, who lived at the mouth of the Kentucky River⁴;

Margaret, who married Thompson Jones. She died in Indiana, opposite Yellow Banks⁵;

Mary married Willis A. Lee, clerk of the Senate of Kentucky and general court.⁶ After Mr. Lee's death she lived in Frankfort until 1843, when she moved back to Mercer County in Salvisa and now lives there with her sister Anne, both widows (since dead June

4th 1847).

Samuel and Hannah (McCormick) McAfee family

My uncle Samuel McAfee married Hannah McCormick and had issue as follows:

John, who married Margaret McKamey;

Anne, who married Thomas King of Shelby county, Kentucky, and died there;

Robert, who married Pricilla Armstrong (he was sometimes deranged);

Jane, who married Beriah Magoffin, a merchant of Harrodsburg⁷;

Hannah, who married Capt. Samuel Daviess, attorney and senator of Mercer County;

William, yet unmarried and a merchant in Harrodsburg (afterward married a widow Lowery, February 1849);

Samuel, (who) died a young man and unmarried in Harrodsburg;

Mary, who married Thomas P. Moore, a member of Congress and Minister to Columbia in South America from 1829 to 1833.⁸

I have thus given the name and marriages of my father's and mother's family as far back as I get from tradition as given to me by my uncle, James, the eldest branch of our family, and from Anne Hillis, who was a daughter of Samuel Ewing the elder and who was in the 84th year of her age in 1831 when I conversed with her.

I will now return to the history of my grandfather McAfee's life while he lived in Pennsylvania. His children were all born at his residence on Octorara Creek. ... Having six sons besides Malcolm, who died on his way to North America, and three daughters, his little farm was not sufficient to keep them all employed. He began to look around him where he could get more land and more room, about 1752 he sold his land and removed to a place on the Conococheague in the west of Pennsylvania, where he remained one year. ... In 1753, he moved across Virginia into North Carolina in the vicinity of the Cowpens, where he did not remain more than two years. ... He moved back to Virginia, where he bought land and settled on the Cataba River. ... He remained (there) until the family moved to Kentucky. ...

During the old man's residence in Pennsylvania and after he went to Virginia, the celebrated preacher

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Whitefield visited America. And my grandmother McAfee became much impressed and interested to hear him and went several miles for that purpose, which gave the old man much uneasiness. ... He had not a good opinion of his (Whitefield) earnest zeal and being a seceder, and somewhat of a Pharisee and his ideas of toleration being contracted, he forbid the old lady going to hear him. ...

(This) had such a serious effect on her that he was compelled to withdraw his objections, with the exclamation, "Well Jenny do as you please, but don't let him come about me." Yet the old man was a strict Seceder Presbyterian in his own way. I gave this story as a specimen of the ideas of toleration held by our ancestors.

1763

After the close of the French War, in this year, my grandfather removed to the county of Augusta, and his children having generally married—his sons generally soon after they became of age, and his daughters before that age. ... Land was easily procured and wild unsettled wilderness before them, the first thought of the young men as soon as they arrived of age, was to look out for suitable companions, which in those days was not hard to obtain as there was a great equality in the circumstances of the back settlements. ... All had little farms with the necessary stock to cultivate it the young women had health and industry and many of them a reasonable share of Beauty.

There was no looking after fortunes or dependence on fathers or father-in-laws for support. Each felt that upon their own industry with the blessing of heaven depended their future destiny. All were ambitious to excel and prove their capacity to maintain a family.

My father, having reflected a short time upon his future prospects, cast his eyes into the family of my grandfather James McCoun, who at that time had two or three marriageable daughters, and having met my mother at a neighborhood quilting, which was the fashionable place of the meetings of the young people in those days, was not long in concluding a match, as both had youth, health and industry, which constituted the principal portions of their fortunes.

They were married on the 10th of December 1766. The whole of my father's property at that time consisted of his clothes, a horse and a good rifle gun. My mother had her clothes, a bed well stocked with

blankets and rugs, a cow and a calf and young mare. With which they started out cheerful and happy.

In the spring of 1767 my father moved into North Carolina, near where my grandfather first settled, but the next year he returned to Virginia and went up into Botetourt County and settled on Sinking Creek, and in two years after, in 1770, he bought an additional tract of land upon the mountains near the head of Sinking Creek called the cove.

My uncles and grandfather also bought land and settled in that part of Botetourt County, where they lived in great peace and harmony, farming and hunting alternately to supply their families. It was about this time that my father, having killed a very extraordinary large elk, had the skin dressed and with the aid of my mother made a most beautiful rug of many colors by sewing woolen yarn into it, which alone was an ample winter covering for a bed, under which I have often slept.

It has descended as an heirloom to my eldest brother Samuel and is now in the possession of his widow and family. When a boy we used to call it "Old Ellick" and many struggles I used to have in keeping "Old Ellick" on the bed, especially if the skin side was next to the bed. It was, however, as pliant and soft as the neatest dressed deer skin.

Exploring Kentucky, 1771-2

In these years the fame of the "Long Hunters" as they were called, of Finley, Dr. Walker, Daniel Boone and others began to circulate that there was a rich and delightful country to the west on the waters of the Ohio. My father and uncles often held councils together and talked over their future prospects, all of whom being in the vigor of manhood and full of enterprise and adventure, longed to see for themselves, as they could not think of being confined to the sterile mountains of Virginia, where only small parcels of fertile land could be found at any one place.

The governor of Virginia, having also issued his proclamation for grant of 400 acres each to soldiers of the French and Indian Wars, in which they had nearly all participated, and also having understood that surveyors were going out to survey these claims called Proclamation Rights, determined early in the Spring of 1773 to visit this land of promise.

Accordingly, having made provision for the cultivation of their little farms, having first planted their

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corn about the 10th of May, in the year (1773), the company, consisting of the following individuals: James McAfee Jr., George McAfee, Robert McAfee, James McCoun Jr., and Samuel Adams, being my uncles, and father, except Samuel Adams, who was a neighboring young man, who had colunteered to go with them.

(They) left their residence on Sinking Creek and Cataba in Botetourt County in the colony of Virginia for the purpose of exploring the western waters of the Ohio River, and seeking out their future homes, taking with them my uncle John McCoun and another young man, James Pawling to take back their horses.

They were fully aware of the dangers and difficulties to be encountered. But to men (i)nured to hardships, bold and enterprising, the prospects of making future fortunes, and the honor of being among the first adventurers in the western wilderness consoled and supported them; together with a firm reliance upon an overruling Providence, whose protecting arm they did not doubt would be with them in their long and dangerous journey.

They were all married and had families, except Samuel Adams, who was then not more than 19 years of age, and had received deep religious instructions from a pious mother who had offered up her prayers for their safety. They felt doubly armed in their hazardous undertaking.

This company was afterwards known by the name of the "McAfee Company."

They struck across the country to the Great Kanahway, then known by the name of the New River and arrived at it about the middle of May 1773 about 120 miles by water above its mouth, having sent back their horses, they spent about a week in selecting suitable trees and dug out and prepared two canoes to carry their baggage and clothes, the former consisting of their rifles, ammunition, tomahawks,

butcher knives, blankets and fishing tacking, including a few fish gigs, etc.

They then descended New River to its mouth on the Ohio River, where they arrived on the 29th of May and remained to the first day of June (the 29th being Saturday). About 20 miles above the mouth, they met Capt. Thomas Bullitt, Douglas and Hancock Taylor, surveyors and their company, who were going down to the falls of the Ohio to survey Proclamation rights of 1763. While there, they measured the Ohio River, which was then found to be 400 yards wide, and the Kanahway or New River 200 yards at its mouth.

On the first of June, Capt. Bullitt was chosen their commander, and he determined to visit Chilicothe, the chief town of the Shawanoe Indians on the Scioto, with three of his own men and two Delaware

Indians, who with several others were going down the Ohio to hunt. Capt. Bullitt proceeded across the country by land. The balance of the companies proceeded down the Ohio in a boat and canoes.

Robert McAfee, and one or two others considered their best hunters, spent a part of every day out on the south side of the Ohio hunting and generally

returned with the necessary supplies, and on the 10th of June the company reached the mouth of the Big Sandy river, where they camped and stayed all night.

My father, in his excursions, struck Little Sandy and discovered the salt springs on that creek, and on the 11th of June they arrived at the mouth of the Scioto. ... On the next day, my father, Robert McAfee, ascended the high ridge below the mouth of the Scioto on the north side of the Ohio from which he had a good view up and down both rivers.

He also examined the bottom on which Portsmouth now stands, and also passed to the south side opposite the mouth of the Scioto, where he found an old French town of 19 or 20 houses, some of which were of hewed logs and clapboard roofs, but vacant

They were fully aware of the dangers and difficulties to be encountered. But to men (i)nured to hardships, bold and enterprising, the prospects of making future fortunes, and the honor of being among the first adventurers in the western wilderness consoled and supported them; together with a firm reliance upon an overruling Providence, whose protecting arm they did not doubt would be with them in their long and dangerous journey.

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and deserted, apparently built some 12 or 15 years before, which were no doubt the first houses ever built by Europeans in the now state of Kentucky, and previous to the surrender of Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh).

June 13 (Sunday), Capt. Bullitt met them from Chilicothe with a letter from a white man by the name of Richard Butler, who had been living with the Shawanoes several years. As this letter may be interesting to the antiquarian in after times, and may show the means by which an All-wise Providence opened the way for the exploration and settlement of the western country, I will give it as found in my father's journal:

Chilicothe, June 10th, 1773

Gentlemen:—

I have been present as a witness and interpreter between Captain Bullitt and the Shawanoes and a part of the Delwares; I believe (and not without some surprize I acquaint you) that his progress in treating with these people has exceeded the expectations of most people, as they claim an absolute rite (right) to all that country you are about to settle, That it does not lye in the power of those who sold it to give this land; and as I am a well wisher to your undertaking I can do no less in justice to Capt. Bullitt than to acquaint you that it is my opinion that it lyes in your power to fulfill every engagement he has made in your behalf by endeavoring to make good order among you, and a friendly countenance to your present neighbors, the Shawanoes. I do assure you that it lies in your power to have good neighbors or bad, as they are a people very capable of discerning between good treatment and ill. They expect you to be friendly with them, and endeavor to restrain the hunters from destroying the game, and that the young men who are inclined to hunt will be regulated by the law of the colony in the case, and as I dare say it is not to hunt the land but to cultivate it that you are about to settle it, it will be an easy matter to restrain those that would hunt and cause your infant settlement to be disturbed, although I am at present a stranger to you, all I beg leave to subscribe myself your well wisher and humble servant.

To the gentlemen settlers, below the mouth of the Sciota.

RICHARD BUTLER.

Captain Bullitt's speech to the chief of the Shawanoe Nation, made in the council house in Chilicothe, June 9th, 1773.

Brothers:—

I am sent with my people to settle the country on the Ohio River as low as the Falls. The King has bought of the Northern and Southern Indians, and I am desired to acquaint you and all people of this great country that the English are and intend to live in friendship with you all and expect the same from you and them, and as the Shawanoes and Delawares are to be our nearest neighbors, and did not get any of the pay given for it, it is proposed and agreed by the Principals of those who are to be the owners of the land to contribute to make your two tribes a present to be given you the next year and the year after. I am appointed to live in the country; I am sent to settle it in order to keep proper regulations, and as I expect some more principal men out of my country in a short time, there will be something more to say to you. And the governor was to come through this country last year had he not been taken sick, so that he may not be out this or next year, as he is desirous of seeing you and the country. I will have a belt of wampum against we have anything more to say as the King did not buy the country for any other purpose than his people to live on and work to support his country. Therefore we shall have no objections to your hunting or trapping on it we shall expect you will live with us as brothers and friends. I shall write what you say to my Governor and expect it to be a good talk.

The answer of the Chief Cornstalk (next morning).

Old Brothers of the Big Knife: We heard you would be glad to see your brothers, the Shawnees and Delawares, and talk with them, we are a little surprised that you sent no message before you, but came quite near us and then through the woods and grass a hard way without our knowledge, till you appeared among us quite unexpected, but you are now standing among your brothers, who think well of you and what you have said to us, we have considered your talk carefully and we are pleased to find nothing bad in it, or no ill meaning, but what seems pleasing, kind and friendly. You have mentioned to us of your directions for settling of people over the river on the opposite side of us, and that it is not the meaning of your King and Governor to deprive us the hunting of the country as usual, but that your directions are to take proper care that we shall not be disturbed in your hunting, for which we stand in need of to buy our clothing, all of which is very agreeable to your young brothers, your young men we desire will be strong

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in the discharge of your directions toward us, as we are determined to be strong in advising our young men to be friendly, kind and peaceable to you. This spring we saw some wrong by our young men in disturbing your people by taking their horses, but we have advised them to the contrary and have cleansed their hearts of bad intentions, and expect it will harkened to by them as they are pleased with what has been said.

Notwithstanding their friendly speeches the day before Capt. Bullitt arrived at the mouth of the Scioto, the company who were waiting for him saw four Indians swimming seven horses across the Ohio from the south side with saddles and packsaddles on them, which they had no doubt of being taken from the white people. The Indians appeared much alarmed at seeing so many of the whites who did not disturb them, as they made their escape as soon as possible. There is no doubt that a knowledge of their young men being absent to steal horses as this and previous times, was the cause of the allusion in Cornstalk's speech to the conduct of their young men, and also of their astonishment, and suspicion upon the arrival of Captain Bullitt at Chillicothe. As he reached the suburbs of that place on the 5th of June, and as soon as his approach was known, he was immediately halted, and confined by a guard in a wigwam at the outer edge of the town; where he was detained several days, until the chief could hold a council, during which time there were many exhibitions of hostility, but through the influence of Richard Butler he succeeded in quieting their fears, as he made no complaint against their stealing horses.

It was finally agreed that he should be admitted into their council, to make a speech, and explain his views. Accordingly, on the morning of the 9th of June, he was escorted by upwards of 100 Indians, painted, yelling and brandishing their tomahawks, into the town, and council house, where he made the speech I have already given, after which they assumed a friendly attitude.

Bullitt, having procured two canoes, descended the Scioto to its mouth, where he found his company awaiting him. ... On the 14th, the company left the Scioto and camped again in about four miles, and the next day proceeded slowly down the river, in order to give their hunters time to procure meat. ... On the 17th, they reached the mouth of Salt Lick

Creek, where Vanceburg now stands. ...

About (a) half mile up this creek they found a small salt pond or spring which had been much used by the buffaloes, deer and elk and at which the Indians had made salt, at this place the first Military surveys were made by (them) for Abraham Hempenstall and James MacMahan.

From this the company proceeded slowly down the river, making occasional entries and surveys. One of the surveyors by the name of Kennedy was left at the mouth of Salt Lick Creek and laid off a town. The McAfee company and the other companies occasionally separated, each one examining the country for themselves. James McAfee and Robert McAfee were generally out hunting—sometimes remaining out several days.

On the 24th, the company reached a creek called Limestone. Here, Robert McAfee went out to examine the country, and as far as I can judge from his journal he passed out the North Fork of Licking and then down through a part of Bracken county, and went down a large creek to the Ohio and found the company had passed on. ... He was compelled to make a Bark canoe, in which he went down the Ohio river until the moon set, where he camped on the shore and at daylight continued his route and found the company at the mouth of the Licking River on the morning of the 27th of June. He hunted up Licking next day 30 or 40 miles, but was not pleased with the land.

Mr. Douglass, one of the surveyors, remained at the mouth of Licking to make surveys, while Bullitt and the McAfee Company proceeded down the Ohio, every day making laborious and fatiguing excursions to examine the land. Their description of the face of the country and the land is accurately made in my father's & uncle James McAfee's journal.

On the first day of July, 1773, the company arrived at the mouth of the Big Miami, and examined the large bottom land on the south side of the river, where they attempted to make some surveys, which was given up on account of some difference of opinion as to their form.

The surveyors insisted upon making them in squares, while others only wished to take in the good land. The McAfee company, (which) wanted to find springs and streams for mills, were not pleased with the Ohio bottoms, never once thinking of the future

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discovery of steam power and its influence on commerce.

Well, exclaims one, what a pity all these things were not known to the first adventurers on the Western country. If we had only known that the Ohio River would one day be the Main Street of some five or six great states, what fortunes we could have made!! Do not murmur at Providence, my dear friends, you were nearly all dead before the discovery was made, and your children have already run through much of what you did secure, so that it is much the best for us that we cannot see into future events, which would only make us unhappy.

On the second and third (of) July, the company proceeded down the Ohio and passed Big Bone Lick about 10 miles without knowing it. ... (On the) next day, having discovered their error, they returned and arrived at the Big Bone lick on the 4th of July, 1773, where they camped, making use of the short joints of the back bones for stools and seats & their ribs for tent poles to stretch their blankets on.

My father in his journal says of this place, "It was a wonder to see the large bones that lie there which has been of several large big creatures. The lick is about 200 yards long and as wide." Here they met with a Delaware Indian, apparently about seventy years old who was asked if he knew anything about them. He answered that when he was a boy they were just so as you now see them.

The company remained here during the 5th and 6th of July and on the 7th started down the Ohio to find the mouth of the Kentucky River, then called Levisa (spelled in my father's journal *Lewisiva*). They went on until eight o'clock at night & camped, and started again about an hour before day and reached the mouth of Kentucky at daylight on the morning of the 8th July 1773.

Here Capt. Bullitt and his company parted from the McAfee company and went on the falls of the Ohio. Hancock Taylor, surveyor, went with the McAfee company up the Levisa or Kentucky River. They proceeded up to the mouth of Eagle creek and camped there that night (it was then named Eagle creek on account of their seeing several eagles hovering round its mouth).

The next day they proceeded up in their canoes to the mouth of Drennon's lick creek, where they found the river closed in to about 10 yards wide by a bar

created by the creek. At this place, the McAfee company left their canoes (as we hear no more of them) and went up that creek to the lick.

Here they found two men of Bullitt's company, one by the name of Drennon & Mathew Bracken. Having heard of this place from the Delaware Indians while at the Big (bone) lick, (he) had crossed the country by land and arrived two days before them, laid claim to the lick. ... (This) so displeased the company that they were not permitted to proceed farther with them. It does not appear that either of these men ever enjoyed any benefit of their discovery made in violation of an implied understanding.

The number of buffaloes, elk, deer, beaver and wolves at this lick was astonishing. The roads round were as much beaten as in the neighborhood of a populous city. The country round was trod so much for several miles that my father's journal says, "That there was not as much grass as would feed one sheep."

The company remained at this place until the 15th July examining the lick and killing game. They also made several surveys.

While engaged in this business, James McAfee and Samuel Adams had a perilous adventure, in passing round the outskirts of the lick, some of the party fired at a large gang of buffaloes, which alarmed them and they broke in the direction, where they were standing, and such was their rapidity that Adams had only time to scamper up a leaning Mulberry tree, while James McAfee, not being so young and active, took shelter behind a tree about two feet in diameter and there by close pressing sideways he stood while the horns of the buffaloes scraped the bark on both sides.

The storm being over, he turned to look for Adams, who he found hanging to the Mulberry like a coon eyeing his friend's condition, unable to give him any aid. This incident furnished many an evening's amusement for many years after.

July 15th. Early in the morning, they left Drennon lick, and as their journals state, took a small buffalo path about the side of the road leading out of Williamsburgh (then the capitol of Virginia), which went a southeast course. They traveled some 30 miles as near as they could guess, and on the next morning in about five miles they struck the Kentucky River, where the buffalo road crossed it at a ripple where lock No.

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4 stands, just below where Frankfort now is.

From this point, they passed up a branch and down the valley in which the penitentiary stands to the river bottom in which Frankfort now is. Here my father made two surveys: one 400, the other 200, including the head of the branch where they left a tomahawk and fish gig in a fine spring & marked a gum saplin(g) at the spring. These surveys included the whole of the penitentiary valley & the town of Frankfort except the low ground north of the capitol square as well as the spring, which is known as McAfee spring to this day.

The last corner made was on the edge of the low bottom, near the three story brick house occupied by Mrs. Sharpe about 80 or 100 yards northwest of the present capitol & camped that night about where the capitol stands under a large beech tree. This was the 16th of July Friday 1773, which was the first survey ever made on the Kentucky River.

My father never completed his title to that land, although he had ample time after the land offices opened, under the belief that others had taken it up.

Next day, July 17th, they left their camp without dreaming that they had slumbered on Kentucky's proud capitol grounds, and passed up the ridge on which the Lexington road now runs and the day being very warm & dry after going about eight miles and not meeting with any water they turned toward the river and crossed about seven or eight miles above their camp at a place where there were high cedar cliffs and little bottom land on either side.

Thence passing through the now county of Anderson across the head braches of Hammond creek found good land but water scarce. The next day, the 18th, they proceeded a south west course and found the Cove Spring where Thomas Lillard afterwards settled on the turnpike road from Harrodsburg to Frankfort, now occupied by Mr. McCall where they camped all night, which they made their rendezvous until the 21st.

On the 19th in the morning they were alarmed by the sound of a gun which they supposed was by Indians. Robert McAfee and James McAfee this day crossed to the Kentucky River and went up and across it for five or six miles but was not pleased with the land. The next day James McAfee had two four hundred acre surveys on the spring and up southwest

& east, and on the 21st they searched west and found Salt River, which they called "Crooked Creek," and went down the same to the mouth of Hammond Creek and commenced surveying by making surveys for James and John McCoun, and again continuing up Salt River made several more surveys, including Lucto and above.

Being now pleased with the size of Salt River for miles good land and water they determined to make their final surveys and locate for a future residence.

They continued their surveys up the river on the 22^d, 23^d and 24th for Sam'l Adams, William Adams, George McAfee and others. The 25th being Sunday the day was kept in camp at James McCoun's spring a mile below Providence Church. The 26th & 27th James McCoun & James & Sam'l McAfee's land was surveyed as well as John Magee's and the land I now live on and where I was born, as all were highly delighted with the land and water.

When my uncle James McAfee found his spring, which is on the tract including the Providence Church, he took Hancock Taylor's (surveyor) Jacob's staff & stuck it down on the bluff above the spring and addressing his brother observed, "Men, you may hunt for as much land as you please but for my part I intend to live here my days out with the blessing of Providence." To which my father replied, "Well, James we will try and find as good places near you"—and sure enough the fine cave spring near which I live was surveyed the same day.

On the 28th they surveyed the land above where I live & surveyed several more tracts of land, and on the 29th lay all day at the mouth of Harrodsburgh branch & platted their different surveys, and on the 30th made surveys for Wm. McAfee, including the mouth of the branch also for John & James Curry and Jeremiah Tilford & one for my father two miles above, including Wilson Station & the bridge over Salt River leading to Perryville, and again camped at the mouth of the town branch.

July 31st (Saturday). This morning the company held a council as to the road they were to return home, whether to go back and get their canoes & return up the Ohio with Capt. Bullitt or take the most direct route home. The McAfee company decided to go up the Kentucky River and pass out of some of its branches into Powell's valley. It was a difficult and hazardous way, but upon the whole they preferred

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it to the difficulty of going back to the Ohio. They had also heard that Dan'l Boone had found plenty of game & had passed very well high up on this river.

Hancock Taylor and two other men who had joined them at the mouth of the Kentucky river determined to join Capt. Bullitt at the falls. Accordingly, about ... noon the party separated: the McAfee company marched directly towards South East for their course and the others in a contrary direction towards the Falls of the Ohio.

It is worthy of note that although a survey made for Sam'l Adams included the mouth of the Fontaine Blue branch and one of its corners stood within 200 yards of the spring, they did not discover it, although it is one of the finest springs on the waters of Salt River or indeed in Kentucky.

The course of the McAfee company lead them across the northern part of the town of Harrodsburgh and that night they lay under some remarkable shelving cliffs on Dick's river, a few miles above its mouth as it commenced raining upon them and continued to rain very hard until near night. Next morning, the first of August, they passed on through the now counties of Garrard & Madison, crossing Sugar creek, Paint Lick & Silver creek, and it still continued showery during this day & the next.

On the third day of August they came in sight of the mountains and then in about eight miles struck the Kentucky River and went up it with great difficulty, crossing its many bends and on the 5th reached its main Fork without finding much game to live on. The mountains & spurs of ridges they had to occasionally cross were covered with pine laurel, green briars & brush so that it was with much pain & labor they could get along.

They took the main North Fork and in 12 or 15 miles the river forked again. They still kept the left hand or North Fork & had to raft the river several times. On the 8th, James McAfee killed a buck elk, which was the first game of much account they had met with. It was a prize for which they were deeply Thankfull.

The river became very crooked and they were greatly annoyed in passing over the green briar spurs of the mountains, as it was impossible to keep on its banks. This day they came to another fork, and they took the right hand fork, which is the fork which comes down past Perry Court House, "Hazzard."

It was on this fork James McAfee killed the elk. Their troubles now seemed to be just commencing. They had to cross the river nearly 20 times a day. On the 10th, they attempted to leave the river, [but] the mountains were so full of brush and green briary, they returned to the river and kept up in 20 miles, and on the 11th August, they continued up the river until 2 o'clock and then left the river as Robt. McAfee's journal says.

We traveled across the worst Laurel mountains that I ever saw about 20 miles, and cempt with little to eat, and on the 12th we traveled over the same kind of mountains, which seemed to us that we should never get out of them. This looks a *little discouraging*.

They were in a region of country which seemed to be the abode of desolation, nothing but barren rocks on every hand, & silence and solitude reigned supreme, not a living animal was to be seen, beside themselves, even the Feathered Tribes had fled, and starvation, and death, was staring them in the face.

Their feet blistered & legs & thighs [were] raw with the scratches of green briars & [the] rubbing of the hems of their shirts. In the midst of a region of craggy rocks and cliffs under a broiling sun was a scene which appalled the stoutest heart, all day no change for the better. The sun was going down behind the western mountains without [them] having seen a living thing that would furnish food. They were passing to the head drains between the waters of the Kentucky, Cumberland & Clinch rivers and no water to quench their parching thirst.

When George McAfee and Sam'l Adams, exhausted and dispirited, halted and lay down, declaring they could go no farther, and they might as well die at once, they were urged to go on a little longer, but to no purpose. At length, Robert McAfee, who was always the most cheerful and athletic of any of his brothers, as a last effort of despair, determined to proceed on across the point of the next ridge to see if he could find anything to kill while James McAfee remained with the others to try and revive their spirits, while James McCoun always cheerful tried to follow Robert who soon out walked him.

The sun by this time was gilding the highest peaks of the eastern mountains by [its] setting rays. When

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That Almighty Hand which sustains, guides, and directs the affairs of this world as well as the destinies of men, interposed in their behalf.

Robert McAfee had not proceeded more than a quarter of a mile across the ridge and was approaching a small branch when he discovered a small spike buck about 50 yards before him! Joy! Anxiety and desperation all flashed over at once, and being an excellent hunter he fired and the buck fell and in a moment after he was on him, himself, with his knife. He had scarcely finished killing him by cutting his throat, when he saw the balance of the company hobbling along to the place.

The sound of his gun inspired new life and in a few minutes they had a fire kindled with meat and water from the little branch in abundance. The joy & hunger combined made it the finest they ever had and Robert was considered as the Joseph of his brethren while heartfelt thanks were returned to a kind Providence.

This affair was never forgotten by these men and ought long to be remembered by their children, that little venison had preserved the lives of their fathers in the wilderness on their return from "the land of Promise." Thus we may trace the workings of an all wise God who amid the highest points of our Western waters preserved a handful of men who were destined to be the pioneers of civilization & Christianity in the great valley of the Mississippi, now numbering many millions.

August 13th, cheered & strengthened, they travel[ed] across some bad laurel ridges at a slow pace and next day reached the head of Powell's valley and on the 15th got to the house of a Mr. Castlewood at the Ford of Clinch river and after resting a few hours went on eight miles farther to David Gist's, where they remained all night and the next day they traveled on five miles farther to Capt. Russell's, an old acquaintance, with their feet so blistered that they could go no farther.

Here they remained several days to recruit, and then in a week afterwards they all arrived at home to the great joy of their families, who had not heard a word from them after they embarked on New River, which they found all well but deeply anxious for their safety, & soon after my father's return viz., on the 19th September 1773 my elder brother Samuel was born, which being my father's first son, having

three daughters before was the cause of great joy in the family.

They met Colonel Boone in Powell Valley on his way to Kentucky with his family & party, but the Indians soon after attacked them & killed the eldest son, which broke up his trip.

1774

[In] the year 1774, the above company intended to return to Kentucky to improve and look after their lands but previous to their getting ready to start, hostilities broke out with the Northern Indians (Shawanoes, Mingoos, and Delawares) on account of the murder of Logan and his family on the Ohio River, which eventuated in a war, and James & Robert McAfee & George McAfee joined the troops under Colonel Shelby and marched to the aid of General Andrew Lewis, who had a battle with Indians at the mouth of the Great Kenhaway called "the Battle of the Point," on account of its being at the point between the two rivers.¹⁰

But while then absent, another company under Colonel James Harrod, consisting of about 41 men in all, Harrod, having about 30 men with him, was afterwards joined by another company of 11 men on the Ohio, they pursued nearly the same route as the McAfee company had, only they ascended the Kentucky river in canoes to the mouth of Landing run (then so called) in the month of May nearly opposite the new village of Salvisa, at a place now called Oregon¹¹ & from thence they passed over on Salt River & made other improvements on portions of the land made by the McAfees, who had deadened trees and made brush heaps on the most conspicuous places on their several surveys one of these was claimed to have been made by a Mr. David Williams on behalf of his brother Vincent Williams within 100 yards of my father's improvement where he had cut the initials of his name on a white oak tree at the Elm Spring (R M F) where I now live which gave my Father & myself much trouble in a long & expensive law suit which I did not get finally settled until June, 1820, it having gone through the several courts in this state.

This company also found Fontaine Blue spring, which was claimed by Isaac Hite, one of Harrods Company, who finally held it by a compromise with Sam'l Adams. Colonel Harrod's company also dis-

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covered the big town spring of Harrodsburgh, which they made their Headquarters & on the 16th of June 1774 laid off a town on the south side of the town branch below this spring and built some five or six cabins & called it "Harrods Town."

From this point they made their excursion to make improvements by deadening trees and making brush heaps and while there Colonel Daniel Boone found them on his way to the falls of [the] Ohio, sent by the Governor of Virginia to warn the companies & surveyors of the hostilities of the Indians and had a cabin built in company with a Mr. Hinton, which afterwards went by this name. About the middle of July, Mr. James Cowan, Jacob Sodowsky & two other men being at Fontaine Blue, Mr. Cowan, having got some of his papers wet, took them out and was drying them in the sun, and while thus employed was fired upon by the Indians & killed. Sodowsky and one of the others made their escape towards the falls of the Ohio and having made canoes descended that river and the Mississippi to New Orleans & returned home by sea. The other man escaped to Harrodstown and gave the alarm to the balance of the company who as soon as they could collect their stragglers broke up camp & returned home by the Cumberland Gap, with the determination to return next spring and maintain their ground. In Harrods company were several men who afterwards became conspicuous in the settlement of Kentucky and its history.

The following names I have obtained from Colonel Harrod's company roll by Abraham Chaplin.
(Names not given. Ed.)

1775

Early in the year 1775, the McAfee company prepared to visit their land in Kentucky. Accordingly about the 20th of February they again left their homes with the addition of David Adams, Wm. McAfee & John Higgins, an apprenticed servant to my grandfather James McAfee, and came through the wilderness by "the Cumberland Gap" & arrived at James McAfee's spring on Salt River on the 11th day of March 1775.

On the 15th of March, Colonel Harrod, with a reinforcement of his company, passed them on their way to Harrodstown again, where they again located at their headquarters. The McAfee Company cut

down the small timber in about two acres of ground, piled & burnt the brush, and made a fence of brush round it. [They] planted some corn, peach stones and apple seed[s], and my father also planted peach stones and apple seed[s] at a sink hole near my cave & Elm Springs.

Also, the same was done at James McCoun's spring, about a mile below where N. Providence church now stands. [McCoun was also] intending to plant more corn, preparatory to moving to the country either that fall or next spring.

My father was somewhat astonished & uneasy at finding a pair of poles about six feet high near his improvements & within 10 steps of the white oak in which his named was marked. George McAfee & William McAfee also cleared a small piece of ground at a spring running into the town branch a short distance below the Harrodstown boundary at this time (now in the possession of Jos. Morgan Esq.).

About the 10th of April the company concluded to return home, leaving John Higgins and Lucien Poulson at Harrodstown to plant more corn and warn other companies of their land, which was faithfully attended to by Higgins, who made additional improvements by cutting down the brush and piling it at the springs where I now reside.... My father intended to settle his father at this point and to make his settlement on the river above Harrodstown.

The balance of the company then continued their journey toward their homes, and on the 21st of April met Henderson and his company at the crossing of Scaggs [Skegg's] Creek (a branch of Rockcastle River), coming on to settle at Boonesborough and grant settlement right claims to land by virtue of [the] Watauga treaty of the 17th [of] March previous with the Cherokees.¹²

Henderson was from North Carolina & claimed the greater part of the present state of Kentucky by virtue of this purchase notwithstanding the treaty with the six nations (Mohawks) made at Fort Schuyler. Here a hasty council was held & Henderson laid his plans before the McAfee Company and urged them to return with him and he would grant them land and allow them to make entries.

James McAfee resisted his proposition and told his brothers, that Henderson's claim could not be valid, as he had made his purchase without the sanction of the government, and if they sought protection under

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him they would be deceived.

Notwithstanding this wholesome and correct advice, such were the allurements held out by Henderson, that his three brothers—Robert, George, and William—turned back with him to Boonesborough, then for the first time occupied by Colonel Boone (about 10 days previous) who had preceded Henderson to open a road. Soon after Henderson's arrival he sent for the Harrodstown people and held his famous convention in the month of May of which my father Robert McAfee was sergeant at arms.

The whole scheme afterwards proved abortive as predicted by James McAfee as far as related to the entries of land made on Henderson's books, but which eventually secured their settlement rights by raising corn.

Robert George and William McAfee remained about two months with Henderson and then returned home, and again in the month of September 1775, the same men in company with John Magee, David and John McCoun (and John Higgins, who had returned home in July to help them) came back to Harrodstown & Salt River, now for the first time called by that name (on account of Capt. Bullitt having discovered saltwater on it at a place afterwards known as Bullitt's Lick) & brought with them 40 head of cattle, which they took down to James McCoun's land on the river about a mile below N. Providence Church & turned them in the cane [cane] & occasionally salted them, commenced clearing ground & building cabins.

John Magee built a cabin assisted by William McBrayer on a point between two branches about a mile below my present residence. John McCoun, with a part of this company, remained during this winter and cleared about 15 acres of ground in the flat adjoining James McCoun's spring & planted it in corn in April 1776.

Their cattle kept in good condition during the winter on the cane. They ploughed their corn once and in June having discovered & heard the Indians round them one night they broke up and returned home, expecting to aid their families in moving to the country in 1776.

Early this spring, the several McAfee and McCoun families with their friends and relations, the Adams, Currys, John Magee, including sons and sons in law, commenced preparations for moving to Kentucky.

Their wives and daughters had been employed

day and night in making a surplus stock of linen, blankets, flannel & bed clothes of all kinds including rugs, and also extra clothing enough for several years until they could raise supplies at their new home, calculating that the corn they had planted would supply them with bread and the cattle they had sent to the country would be sufficient to give them milk & also to begin with in a new country. The only difficulty seemed to be how they were to take their goods and chattels.

It was at length agreed upon to take their heavy & bulky household stuff by water & up the Kentucky river with part of the company and their families on pack horses through the wilderness by way of the Cumberland Gap.

Accordingly, in May 1776 they packed up the greater portion of their household property and farming utensils, also kegs of flour, corn and other seeds in the middle of which they put a bottle of whiskey for safe keeping (which however proved their ruin, as we will see as has often been the case since with others).

With these on packhorses, they proceeded across the country to Brown's Ferry, on Green Briar (or Gaully River as it was then called), where they made canoes & put all on board on the 11th of June and proceeded down the river. But the season having been dry, they had great difficulty in getting along over the falls & rapids of the river. After several overturn[ed] their canoes, they were compelled to stop about 15 miles above its mouth and build a log cabin on a ridge, in which they deposited all their goods & covered it well with bark, intending to return for their horses and transport it back to go by land, but by the time they got home, the Cherokee war broke out and the men had to go on that expedition which eventuated in burning their towns at Nicajack.

As soon as this campaign was over, still determined on moving, they collected their packhorses and went after their goods, which was early in September. When they arrived at their cabin expecting to find everything safe, what was their astonishment and chagrin to find the roof thrown off, and their rugs, blankets & kegs lying scattered in various directions entirely ruined & broken open, some of their finest rugs lay under the shade adjacent trees or cliffs of rocks which when attempting to lift them they found rotten.

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They had apparently been used by some person to sleep on. The kegs, which had been broken and found to contain their whiskey had been evidently destroyed for that purpose. The feelings of the company were at once enraged to find all their valuable property and the labor of years of toil thus destroyed, at a time when it was so much needed. They had also kegs of coffee, sugar, spice, tea, etc., which they had laid up for special use, as they did not expect to get such things in Kentucky for several years.

It seemed to them that Providence had frowned upon them as all their plans & efforts were frustrated, so it appeared to them, but no doubt a wise Province overruled all these things and saved many valuable lives which would have been destroyed if they had reached their new and dangerous homes in this year. It was no doubt for the best. However, they did not then feel so. After a short consultation, it was first supposed to be done by Indians, but seeing no signs of that kind, this opinion was given up and it was believed to be done by some straggling white man.

They determined to search round to see if they could find the culprit, the company divided off two together, and James & Samuel McAfee took a small track, which led towards the river and down it. ...

In a short distance they met (as James McAfee said) a little diminutive red-headed white man, who appeared much confused. He was immediately charged with doing all the mischief, which he denied. But James McAfee, discovering some of their clothing on him, on a sudden impulse of passion struck at him with the pole of his tomahawk, which, glancing off the side of his hat, laid him on his back quivering. [James] then drew his knife jumped at him to finish. But his brother Samuel seized his arm and said, "Stop, James, do not kill the man."

This admonition, recalled reflection, and his life was spared. His name was Edward Sommers, a bound servant who had ran away from his master down low in Virginia and was endeavoring to get to the Indians when he accidentally found this cabin. ... Finding good rugs and clothing, he had made it his headquarters for two months & breaking open one of the kegs to see what was in it, found a bottle of whiskey.... [This] induced him to break the others, upon which he got drunk and rioted like another savage without care or thought for the future, not even attempting to preserve anything from destruction.

The conduct was so wanton and outrageous that as soon as he came to, he was helped up and conducted back to the cabin.... As soon as the company were collected, a council was held over him, and he was permitted to explain his conduct, which was so malignant & indefensible that it was decided that, according to their opinion of the laws, he had forfeited his life and ought to be hung.

This sentence none of them would agree to execute, and by this means his life was saved a second time. James McAfee [observed] that "if Sam had let him alone, there would have been no further trouble with him."

They now collected such of their farming tools and some few other articles not injured and returned home to commence anew their laborious preparations. But the blow fell heavy upon every family and prevented any farther attempt to move [in] the succeeding years of 1777 & 1778. [It was] the continuation of the Revolutionary War, in which the most of these men heartily engaged in the Virginia Militia.

James McAfee served as a lieutenant. The others were content to serve in the ranks as they were called on. Botetourt County was almost unanimously ardent friends of the Revolution and staunch Whigs. Their principal services were, however, on the frontiers, and to down to Williamsburgh.

The McAfees ranked as brave soldiers who could be relied on, but none of them aspired to distinction or office of any kind. Their education [was] confined to reading, writing & figures as far as the rule of three. My uncle James, judging from his journal, wrote an excellent hand for the times, or indeed at any time, superior to many men in high office.

My father, Robert, wrote a good strong hand and read well, being much inclined to reading. He was well informed upon all the current subjects of the day. He always took the leading newspapers then published in Virginia & the Kentucky Gazette from its first establishment until his death. He was, however, deficient in figures, which he often regretted, although he could do his own calculations. This was one reason he often assigned for his determination to educate his children, male and female.

My uncles Samuel & William also wrote excellent strong hands & were better versed in arithmetic than any of their brothers.

Some of the company visited Salt River in the fall

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of 1777 to look after the cattle, but by this time they had run wild or were killed by hunters from Harrodstown, so that not more than two or three were ever heard again.

1779

This was an important year for the McAfee family and their friends, as well as for the settlement of Kentucky. The Virginia Legislature passed a land law & commissioners were appointed to sit as a court to examine and grant certificates of Settlements & preemptions, amounting to 1,400 acres of land. [This court] met in Harrodsburg on the 13th day of October in this year.

Of course, it became necessary for all those who had claims to land to come to the country and make their claims. My father and uncles & grandfather McCoun & his family, with the Adams[es], Currys, etc., consisting of three or four patriarchal families, having made extensive arrangements, left their home in Botetourt County, Va., on the 17th of August for Kentucky.

[They left] George McAfee's wife, who had just been confined [for childbirth]. [She was] to follow on as soon as she was able to ride, which she was in three days after. The company moved slowly and halted at the ford of New River for George McAfee to return for his wife, who, to his great surprise, he met coming the next morning.

The company were all on packhorses and came by the Cumberland Gap, and after a long and painful march, arrived in safety at Wilson's Station on Salt River, about two & a half miles from Harrodsburgh on the 27th day of September.

Next day, a part of the company went on to James McAfee's Station. My father stopped at Wilson's Station and put up a double cabin for his family as he claimed the land adjoining. When the commissioners met at Harrodsburgh, Wilson contested his claim and the court decided in favor of Wilson.

The surveyor's office was kept by Mr. May in my father's house and his brother taught a school part of that fall and winter. When my father lost his claim, he entered his settlement right on the river about a mile below. His beginning corner stood on the east bank of Salt River at the crossing of the old road, leading to Harbison's Station (now Perryville).

Wilson's Station stood on this high ridge on the

east side of Salt River, just below the mouth of the Dry Fork. There being no good land adjoining my father's settlement, he declined claiming his preemption of 1,000 acres, which was an error which he afterwards had great cause to regret.

In the month of November, he came down Salt River & built a cabin on the bank of the river, near my present mill and moved to it as the winter set in, having made an arrangement with John Magee, his brother in law, to divide his preemption with him, which afterwards gave him great trouble and expense.

The winter of 1779-80 proved to be one of great severity. It commenced the last of November & continued until the 15th or 20th February during which time the snow lay on the ground, and there was continued cold freezing weather. Salt River was frozen in many places to the bottom, a large portion of their cattle & many of their horses perished. My father lost 10 head of his horses, so that he had but one yellow horse he called Chicasaw & one brown mare left in the spring.

Many buffaloes and wolves as well as beavers, otters & turkeys were frozen to death. [Desperate ones] would frequently come up near the cabins at James McAfee's Station and where I live with the tame cattle.

The people were reduced to the utmost extremity for bread, one "Johnny cake" (bread baked on a long board before the fire) had often to be divided according to size and number of the family & that only once or twice each day, and even this failed toward the close of winter and for many weeks nothing but meat could be obtained and that poor enough, unless a bear could be found in some hollow tree, which would furnish a feast, with wild turkey for bread. Thus their first winter was spent.

James McAfee's cabins were considered headquarters on Salt River, and among the persons who remained there that winter, we find Robert Ewing and Baker Ewing, and Joseph Lyon, besides James McAfee's family and James McCoun Sr., his sons and sons in law.

My grandfather James McAfee declined moving with them to the country on account of his age and difficulties of the road. His family made ample provision for (him) in the family of a Mr. Montgomery (a relation) and a Mr. McDonald, where he remained until his death in 1785.

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Cheerful and contented, my grandmother would not separate from her children and came with them, living a part of the time with my father and a part with my aunt Mary Guant, where she died in 1783 and lies buried with her son in law Thos. Guant on a high hill on the southeast side of Salt River & about half a mile a little south of west from the mouth of the dry fork now in the farm of Archibald Adams and also half a mile northwestwardly from the Mudd meeting house (now so called).

I am thus particular that the place may be identified. It is the only high ground near and Salt River runs around it on the west and north, commanding a fine view to the east, north & west. And there to repose the mother of the McAfee family in the new western world to which she had brought her children. It is about three miles southwest of Harrodsburgh.

It may also be worthy of notice that when my father and uncles ... reached their land in September 1779, they found a good crop of peaches and a few apples on the trees grown for ... seed planted in the spring [of] 1775, so rapid had been their growth, and I have now on my farm two apple trees of the same stock, which never failed to bear every year since my recollection, making good the old Scotchman's remark: "When ever you can find nothing else to do, plant a tree of some kind, it will pay you or somebody else."

1780

As already remarked, the spring of this year opened early, about the 20th of February, after which a succession of fine pleasant weather inspired them with new life and hopes. The first thing attended to was [food]. My [father] and uncles went to the falls of Ohio, having heard of the arrival of some corn from "Red Stone" old fort.¹³

It was important [for the men] to procure seed and some bread for their families

and, on their arrival, they procured some indifferent corn at \$60 per bushel continental money. My father purchased seven bushels & packed on his two horses home all he had for bread and seed until he could raise it, and this was ground on hand mills constructed by themselves.

Tin cups were a luxury and [they had no] gourds. My father, who was a good self made mechanic contrived with the few tools he had to supply the deficien-

cy by making what was called "noggin," which he hollowed out of a knot of a tree or with small staves and hoops to hold about a pint. ... Each child had one. ... "Necessity, the mother of invention" found means to provide the necessary family utensils. Yet, with all this deprivation, they were happy and contented, and at the station of James McAfee they enjoyed themselves with dancing several times each week.

[Dancing] was not then considered criminal & it kept up their spirits and cheerfulness in the wilds of the West, and it must be admitted that it added to the health ... & happiness of the young people and indeed it was not believed to be inconsistent with their religious duties, but after times proved the necessity of limiting this amusement.

As soon as they possibly could, each family moved to their land and commenced clearing land. My father and John Magee lived for some time together in a cabin in which I was afterwards born. My father cleared and planted some five or six acres north of the elm spring on which my orchard now grows. ...

Early in June of this year, James Thompson, surveyor of Lincoln county, surveyed the settlements & preemptions on the river belonging to the McAfee company. But a difficulty took place, which involved my father and John Magee in a tedious law suit with Mr. Vincent Williams, who this spring claimed before the Court of Commissioners preemption by virtue of an improvement made in 1774 as one of Harrod's Company by his brother David. But the court decided that, having already granted a preemption to John Magee for the same land, they could not grant one to him.

It was unfortunate that John Magee ... he claimed his preemption, made on the faith of an improvement made in 1775 instead of 1773, under the impression that the improvements made in that year were void as well as their surveys. [This] was a great mistake & gave cause for much trouble thereafter.

Indeed, all the McAfee company had made their claims in the same way, believing that Harrod's company had not interfered with them. [This] was not the fact, although John Higgins & Poulson had notified them of the McAfee improvements in 1775, which prevented all other interference except by William & Isaac Hite, the latter of whom wisely compromised with Samuel Adams, while Williams finally failed as will be seen in the sequel after expending 10

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times the value of the land in that day.

The Indians during this year annoyed the station by killing & scalping stragglers and stealing horses on the north side of the Kentucky River, while those on Salt River were comparatively left in peace on account of Harrodsburg containing a respectable population and a company of soldiers. Yet occasionally, that section of the country was assailed.

It may be a matter of some curiosity to give the census of Harrodsburg ... taken from the journal of John Cowan in the year 1777, which will prove its importance at that time & since. [It was] taken on the first day of May in that year, after the arrival of Colonel Bowman—

Men in service	81
Men not in service	4
Women	24
Children above 10 years old	12
Children under 10 years old	58
Slaves above 10 years old	12
Negro children under 10 years old	<u>7</u>
	198

In the year [1777] this population had greatly increased, which, in addition to continual influx of temporary & travelers looking for land, made it even in that day the principal town of the state.

But to return to the events of [the year 1780]: In consequence of the depredation of the Indians, General George Rogers Clark, with Colonel Ben Logan, determined to attack the Shawanoe Indians at Old Chillicothe on the little Miami (now in the state of Ohio), about three or four miles north of Xenia.¹⁴

With this view, General Clark was to move up the Ohio River in boats with the regular [troops] and militia in the vicinity of the Falls of Ohio to the mouth of Licking River. Colonel Logan was to descend the Kentucky River & meet him at the mouth of that river. The troops from Lexington, Bryan's Station & other places north of the Kentucky were to go on direct to the mouth of the Licking.

In consequence of this arrangement, the troops from St. Asaph's, Harrodsburgh, McGary's & James & William McAfee's stations met at various points on the Kentucky River. The main rendezvous was at a place called Warwick, in the first large bottom above the mouth of Landing Run (Harrod's Landing of 1774) and prepared canoes and collected provi-

sions for that purpose.

With this expedition the men from James McAfee's Station generally went, leaving only enough to cultivate a field of corn of about two acres, which and been cleared in common in the valley east of the station, and to defend the station, which reduced them to six or seven men only, besides their women and children.

My uncle William McAfee commanded the company thus raised from Harrodsburgh & this and the other stations. This expedition started about the first of July. Captain Elliston ... commanded [a] company from the other stations.

These troops laid in provisions to last until they reached the mouth of Licking, expecting to get a supply then from General Clark at the public expense. But when about to march from that point, two pounds of flour per man and a small quantity of meat was all that could be had. Notwithstanding, they were in high spirits and made no complaints, as General Clark had done the best he could.

The only draw back on the army was that one man deserted before they crossed the Ohio and went to the Indian town and gave them information of the approach of Clark's army, so that when they arrived at Old Chillicothe, they found the town deserted and burnt and still smoking in its ruins. But the army pushed on to another town call Piqua a few miles distant, they found that the Indians had taken refuge in a block house and a small stockade fort.

It was about 10 o'clock in the morning and General Clark divided his army into four divisions and directed the leader of each to march so as to enclose the town on four sides. The Indians, perceiving this movement, sallied out and formed in the timbers on the west side of the town and were ready to receive the whites.

A severe battle now commenced, and a running tree firing was kept up. The Indians [were] still retreating as the second division of General Clark's army joined in the combat. The other two divisions, which were to cross opposite the town, could not get down the banks of the river and went nearly three miles to cross & of course did not get engaged in the battle.

After the first and second division had kept a running fight for nearly two hours, they lost sight of the Indians entirely. ... Not hearing anything of the other portion of the army, they collected together

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and marched round toward the river above the town & discovered an Indian in a treetop.

Captain William McAfee & Elliston took the same tree. McAfee, being outside, turned round to look for another tree to shelter himself when the Indian fired and shot him through the breast. He did not fall immediately, but sat down. When a Mr. James McBride discover[ed] the Indian by the smoke of his gun, [he] fired at him and killed him on the spot, which closed his exultation.

A portion of Captain McAfee's company being left to take care of him, the balance marched round the point of a ridge and halted & sat down to listen for the balance of the army. But all was silence, for near half an hour, when suddenly a body of Indians came down the bottom of the Miami below them and commenced tremendous war whoop yelling, both parties apparently about equal.

The white troops immediately rushed down upon them and, each party taking a tree, a heavy fire commenced. But the Indians soon retreated toward their town and blockhouse, pursued by the whites, who for two miles followed them so that when the whites reached to [the] top of one ridge the Indians were ascending another. When the Indians reached the high ground above the bottom, where their town was located, they formed in line of battle & took trees. ...

Here the battle really commenced as the Indians in the fort united with their brethren. ... The renewed firing having been heard by the detached company they arrived in time to aid in the conflict. After the battle had continued some time and several had been killed on both sides, the Indians broke and ran down the hill into their fort and cabins, where the conflict was renewed.

General Clark now ordered up a small three-pounder cannon, which he [had] taken with him on a pack horse, and opened fire upon their blockhouse, from a point below the town, while the other troops fired upon the Indians, as they could occasionally be seen running from their cabins towards the river. ... In this way the firing was kept up until after sundown. ...

Nearly all the Indians had made their escape to the river & ascended under its bank up to a small branch that put in above the town, and in this way got off. ... Some of them were met by the other division of the army, which was all the share they had in

the conflict. Some 15 or 20 Indians were killed in this last conflict and nearly as many white men, and a great many wounded.

The army encamped in the vicinity of the town & next day destroyed all [of the Indians'] corn & houses.

Captain William McAfee, although shot through the breast, did not appear to be mortally wounded. He was carried part of the way on a litter between two horses to the Ohio, at the mouth of Licking and thence down to the Falls of Ohio and out to Floyd Station, where (he) remained alive until his wife went from his station near Harrodsburgh to see him. His wound at last produced mortification, and he died in August 1780, leaving his wife ensient with a third daughter (afterwards Mrs. Mary Lee).¹⁵

Thus closed the life of a second uncle by the hands of the Indians, and a braver spirit never lived. He was beloved by all his friends, while his loss was deeply felt by his family, consisting of a wife and three infant daughters.¹⁶

My uncle George McAfee, who had married Captain William McAfee's wife's sister, became the guardian of the children and the protector of the widow.¹⁷

Such were the difficulties incident to the first settling of Kentucky, which have been deeply impressed on my mind and very probably influenced many of my opinions & feelings during a long and eventful life.

The south side of the Kentucky River had peace the balance of this year. Sometime this fall, my uncle John Magee moved to his cabin about one mile below my father's on Salt River. ...

The men were generally engaged in tending & fathering their crops, surveying their land and killing meat to feed their families, having to bring what salt they used from the Falls of Ohio at an exorbitant price. My mother and elder sisters gathered nettles in the fall, from which she manufactured a piece of linen enough to clothe some of the children, and an old black woman by the name of Frank & a negro boy called Cornelius. The former [my father] had purchased of my grandfather McCoun and the latter he had purchased when a child & brought both to Kentucky with him. ... [This was] his whole stock of servants he ever owned.

Endnotes

¹ President James Buchanan (b. 23 April 1791, Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Penn., d. 1 June 1868, Wheatland, near

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*

Lancaster Penn.), a son of James Buchanan and Elizabeth Speer, served as U.S. secretary of state under President James Knox Polk from March 6, 1845 to March 7, 1849. James and George Buchanan were at least second cousins, since George's father, James Buchanan, was born on 7 October 1766 in Botetourt County, Va., and the president's father, James Buchanan, was born in 1761 in Lancaster County, Penn.

²John Forsyth (b. 22 October 1780, Fredericksburg, Va., d. 21 October 1841, Washington, D.C.), served as U.S. secretary of state under presidents Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren from July 1, 1834 to March 4, 1841. Forsythe was also a six-term congressman who served two terms in the U.S. senate and was governor of Georgia from 1827 to 1829. He married Clara Meigs (b. 18 September 1784), a daughter of Josiah Meigs and Clara Benjamin.

³William McAfee commanded a company in General George Rogers Clark's 1780 campaign against Shawnee towns in Ohio. He was shot "through the body" near Piqua, Ohio, but his brothers brought him back to Floyd's Station in Jefferson County, where he was able to speak with his wife before he died. See Lewis Collins, Richard H. Collins, *History of Kentucky*, Volume 2 (1874, Reprint 1966, Frankfort, Ky.: Kentucky Historical Society), p. 619.

⁴Elijah Craig (b. about 1764, Spotsylvania County, Va., d. 14 October 1813) married Anne McAfee about 9 September 1794, the date of the marriage bond, in Mercer County. The couple apparently lived near what would become Carrollton, Carroll County, Ky. Craig served as a captain during the War of 1812 and was killed at the Battle of the Thames in October 1813. Craig may, or may not, have been a son of John Hawkins Craig and Sarah Page.

⁵Yellow Banks was the original name of the site of the present city of Owensboro, Daviess County.

⁶Mary McAfee was born in 1780, after her father's death that August. She died in Salvisa, in Mercer County, on 4 June 1847. Willis Lee (b. 16 August 1745, Warrenton, Fauquier County, Va.) was a son of Hancock Taylor Lee II, an early Kentucky explorer and member of the celebrated Virginia family, who founded Leestown, Franklin County, Kentucky's oldest settlement, as early as 1775. His mother Mary Willis was born in Fredericksburg, Va., on 5 August 1709. Willis was referred to as having the military rank of major, and his middle name may have been Atwell. See Lewis Collins, Richard H. Collins, *History of Kentucky*, Volume 2 (1874, Reprint 1966, Frankfort, Ky.: Kentucky Historical Society), p. 619.

⁷Beriah Magoffin and Jane McAfee became the parents of Beriah Magoffin (b. 18 April 1815, Harrodsburg, d. 28 February 1885, Harrodsburg), who served as governor of Kentucky from August 30, 1859 until August 18, 1862, when he resigned under pressure because of his presumed Southern sympathies. See Kleber, John E., editor, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* (Lexington, Ky.: University Press of Kentucky, 1992), pages 603-4.

⁸Thomas Patrick Moore (b. 1797, Charlotte County, Va., d. 21 July 1853, Harrodsburg, Ky.) attended Transylvania University in Lexington and was as a major in the War of 1812

before his election to Congress, where he served from March 4, 1823 to March 3, 1829. Moore was appointed "Minister Plenipotentiary to New Grenada" by President Andrew Jackson and served from March 13, 1829 to April 16, 1833. He was a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Dragoons during the Mexican War and a delegate to the state constitutional convention of 1849-50. Moore married Mary McAfee on 16 April 1818, in Harrodsburg. The couple's children included James Johnson, Mary Lock, Hannah Ellen, and Thomas C. Moore. See *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1949* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1950), p. 1584 (or <http://bioguide.congress.gov>).

⁹County seats were often referred to simply as the site of the court house. Both Perry County and its seat, Hazard, were named for War of 1812 hero Oliver Hazard Perry, who won the Battle of Lake Erie. Perry County was established in 1820, a year after Perry's death. The present-day third-class city of Hazard was founded by Elijah Combs Sr., in 1821. The post office there was begun in 1824 under the name Perry Court House, but was changed to Hazard in 1854. The city was incorporated in 1884.

¹⁰The 10 October 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant, was fought at the confluence of the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers, at the site of present-day Point Pleasant, Ohio. The battle marked the last large scale clash between Virginia and Indians before the beginning of the Revolutionary War. See "Manufactured History: Re-Fighting the Battle of Point Pleasant," *West Virginia History*, Volume 56 (1997), pages 76-87.

¹¹Oregon remains on modern maps as near the site of a boat ramp on the Kentucky River, in northern Mercer County, along its eastern boundary.

¹²The 17 March 1775 Treaty of Watauga, also known as the Transylvania Purchase, was one of the first steps in Colonel Richard Henderson's plan to purchase land in Kentucky for settlement. Daniel Boone's clearing of the Wilderness Road, the establishment of Fort Boonesborough, and the first meeting of a representative body in Kentucky, all which occurred in 1775, were the result of the efforts of Henderson and his Transylvania Company. The effort was doomed, however, when Virginia and the Continental Congress refused to recognize the company or its land claims. See John E. Kleber, editor, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992), p. 894.

¹³Redstone Old Fort was a prehistoric Indian mound overlooking the eastern shore of the Monongahela River in present-day Brownsville, Fayette County, Penn. The ancient's placement of large red sandstone blocks atop the mound, coupled with the pioneer's term "old fort," in reference to prehistoric fortifications, gave the site its name. English explorers built a wooden fort there about 1759, which pioneers defended against Indians when necessary. Redstone was also a common rendezvous site for explorers and families heading for Kentucky, including James Harrod, founder of Harrodsburg.

¹⁴Josiah Morrow identified the site of Old Chillicothe as "about three miles north of the site of Xenia" in 1882. Old Chillicothe was one of five Indian towns along the two forks

The Life and Times of Robert B. McAfee, *continued*

of the Miami River, which also included Pickaway, New Chillicothe, Will's Town and Chillicothe. It was described as being constructed like a Kentucky "station," in a "hollow square" design. According to Morrow, "a long council house extended the entire length of the town, in which embassies were received and the chiefs met to consult on grave questions. Some of the houses are said to have been covered with shingles or clapboards." See Josiah Morrow, *The History of Warren County, Ohio* (Chicago: W.H. Beers Co., 1882; Reprint Mt. Vernon, Ind.: Windmill Publications, 1992), p. 220.

¹⁵ Mary McAfee (b. 1780, Mercer County, Ky.), a daughter of William McAfee and Rebecca Curry, married Willis Atwell Lee (b. 29 May 1773, Culpeper County, Va., d. 6 October 1824, Frankfort, Franklin County, Ky.), a son of John Lee and

Laetitia Atwell, on 3 October 1797 in Franklin County.

¹⁶ The three daughters of William McAfee and Rebecca Curry were Anna, Margaret, and Mary. Their mother, Rebecca Curry (b. 8 October 1740, Botetourt County, Va.) was a daughter of William Curry (b. about 1714, Lancaster, Penn.) and Mary McAfee (b. about 1718, County Armagh, Ulster, Northern Ireland). She later married Robert Brown.

¹⁷ George McAfee (b. 13 April 1740, Octoraro Creek, Lancaster County, Penn., d. 14 April 1803, Mercer County, Ky.) married Susannah Curry (b. 8 October 1740), a daughter of William Curry (b. about 1714, Lancaster, Penn.) and Mary McAfee (b. about 1718, County Armagh, Ulster, Northern Ireland). The couple's daughter Mary (b. between 1765-70) married Robert Armstrong on 21 February 1791.

QUERIES

Questions about Kentucky families submitted by Society members

Venard, Craig

Mary "Polly" Venard married Henry VanMeter Craig in 1838 in McDonough County, Ill. She was a daughter of John Venard of Harrison County, Ky. How was H.V. Craig's father, who is said to have been born in Kentucky.

*Marilyn Hill Craig, 835 NW 18th Place,
McMinnville, OR 97128
mjrcraig@onlinemac.com*

Sprinkle

Looking for information on Jacob Sprinkle, who discovered a silver mine near Lewis County, made his own coins and in 1841 was charged with counterfeiting silver coin. Sprinkle was found not guilty. Nicknamed "the silver dollar man," Sprinkle is said to have paid his attorney with 50 of his silver coins. Sprinkle is listed on 1830 Morgan County census as age 40-50, and, in 1840, as 50-60 and living in Lewis County.

*Martha Sutton, 3744 Kentucky 39N,
Crab Orchard, KY 40419*

Smith, Tull

Looking for ancestry of William Smith Sr. of Woodford County, who married Anna Merrill Tull, daughter of Handy Tull, in 1819. William and Anna moved to Jefferson County, Ind., in the 1820s.

*Michele Morgan, 527 Leawood Drive,
Frankfort, KY 40601*

E-mail: michele38m@yahoo.com

Anderson, Bayer, Baskerville, Borders, Blackford, Harris, Moore, Tharp, Westerfield

Information needed on the following deceased Pentecostal minister in Kentucky: A.G. Anderson, E.J. Bayer, C.P. Baskerville; Floyd Borders, Opal Blackford, Sherman Harris, Thomas F. Moore, Manuel Tharp, Luther Westerfield.

*Lloyd Dean, 6770 U.S. 60 East,
Morehead, KY 40351*

Tolliver, Wagner, Lowe, Lucas

Looking for information on: 1. Jones Washington Tolliver (b. 1858, perhaps Nicholas County), who married Mahulda Angie Wagoner; 2. John Henry Elijah Lowe (b. Carter County), who married Katherine Maggibelle Tolliver; 3. Mary Louise Lowe Lucas, who lived on a shanty boat on the Ohio River. Her father, Albert Lucas, was from Carter County. Also working on Montgomery, Burriss, Kitchen, Lester, Waldren, Dixon, and Gallagher. Any help appreciated.

Martha Sutton, 3744 Kentucky Highway 39N, Crab Orchard, KY 40419

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Land Office Debuts New Web Service at NGS Conference

Kentucky's Secretary of State's Land Office launched its new Virginia Treasury Warrants database in May at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Richmond, Va.

Via the website <http://sos.ky.gov/land>, researchers can now access entries recorded in two Virginia Treasury Warrants Registers transcribed in 1798 by Edmund Thomas, agent from Kentucky, and certified by William Price, Register of the Virginia Land Office. The new database includes information for more than 23,200 Treasury Warrants authorized by the May 1779 Virginia Land Law.

The Treasury Warrants were purchased, initially at a cost of 40 pounds per 100 acres, or were authorized by Special Act or Resolution of the Virginia Assembly. Included on the database are listings of 300 Treasury Warrants issued to George Rogers Clark "for the purpose of recruiting his battalions." Many of the database entries will link to color-scanned images in the Virginia and Old Kentucky Series land patent files maintained by the Kentucky Office of the Secretary of State.

"One of the top priorities of my administration has been the development of our website and in particular, the addition of online images and services to the site," said Secretary of State Trey Grayson. "This new database is going to be an incredible resource for researchers and historians."

Ann Pennington, president of the Kentucky Genealogical Society, who was present in Richmond when

the announcement was made, agreed. "Having internet access to these records opens new research opportunities for all genealogists and historians studying early land acquisition in Kentucky," she said.

The Land Office also offers a "County Formations" database where one can see the complete text of all Acts creating Kentucky's 120 counties plus the former Fincastle and Kentucky counties of Virginia and the unapproved Henrietta and Beckham counties of Kentucky. Researchers now can access complete text of legislation approved by the Virginia General Assembly and the Kentucky General Assembly establishing each Kentucky land patent series and other early Acts of historical interest.

Historians, genealogists, and constituents can also now access databases and view images of newly discovered records regarding "Corn and Cabin" patents authorized by "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants" issued by the Virginia Land Commissioners from 1779 to 1780. A second database, "Lincoln Entries," allows researchers to access information and view scanned images of over 4,700 Lincoln County Entries filed from 1779 to 1792 when Lincoln County was one-third of the Kentucky District of Virginia. The site also includes a Kentucky Land Office "Reference Library" which features an online Gazetteer, Glossary, Quick-Reference Guides, and an Online Seminar.

Kentucky is one of the first repositories in the United States to offer a complete collection of patent files in color format. Archivists have proclaimed the color digitization of documents, such as Veteran's Warrants with red wax seals, as the supreme form of document preservation.

MYSTERY ALBUM



The back of this school photo includes the names Birty French, John Thomas Dryden and "Mr. Sampson," and the date Dec. 30, 1893. John Thomas Dryden may have been associated with Ada, Sally, and Elsie Dryden, in addition to G.W. Dryden, a farmer who lived in Kentontown, Robertson County.

If you recognize those pictured or can provide any more information about them, please contact Kentucky Ancestors at 100 W. Broadway, Frankfort, KY 40601-1931, or call 502-564-1792, ext. 4435, or e-mail: Tom.Stephens@ky.gov.

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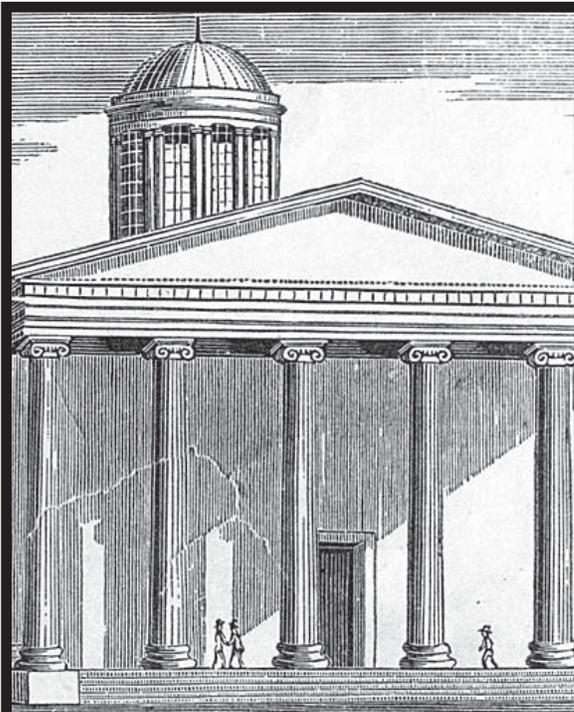
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